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Azerbaijani Decrees Issued

Baku Radio reports that Tofik Kasumov was appointed foreign minister of Azerbaijan. Acting President Isa Kamberov issued the decree which "will be submitted to the Azerbaijani National Council for debate." "Kamberov also issued a decree removing Guseynaga Sadkykhov as foreign minister because he has been appointed to another post."

Radio Rossii reports on another decree which gave "the republic's militia the right to search apartments, vehicles, transport facilities, and citizens on the streets or on residential premises without the sanction of the Procuracy." Military personnel also were given the right "to arrest and detain those who resist for 30 days. In the case of armed resistance, they are authorized to shoot the offenders dead on the spot."

North Ossetia To Lift Georgian Blockade

Because "humanitarian considerations will not permit peaceful people in Georgia and Armenia to be forced to continue to suffer," North Ossetia is ready to lift the energy and transport blockade of Georgia, Moscow Radio reports. Yuriy Biragov, deputy chairman of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet, said the closure of the gas pipeline and the military highway "had attracted the attention of the public to the events in South Ossetia."

Nuclear Weapons Alleged in North Ossetia

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA reports that retired Major General Soltan Kalitsov, a North Ossetian deputy, claimed "that strategic nuclear weapons of the former Soviet Army are based on the territory of North Ossetia."

Grachev Urges Arms Transfer to Georgia

Moscow Radio reports Defense Minister General Pavel Grachev, in his address to the Russian Supreme Soviet session 29 May, stated there is a "possibility of handing over equipment and armaments" to Georgia with a "guarantee" that the materiel "do not take part in ethnic conflicts." Grachev cited the need to avoid a situation like Azerbaijan and the need to protect the welfare of the Russian-speaking population on Georgia's territory as reasons for this move. He also claimed that if a decision is made to withdraw troops from Georgia's territory, then "we will simply not be able to get out without bloodshed or without war...it would be necessary to stage a real, large-scale military operation." However, he noted, the "handover of a proportion of the forces and...armaments to the Georgian army is to be decided" after a final decision by the president and approval by Russia's Supreme Soviet.

Black Sea Fleet Issues

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA publishes a report on a meeting held between a Georgian military delegation and a group of specialists from the Black Sea Fleet Staff. The Georgians proposed "that some of the Black Sea Fleet forces located in the republic should be transferred to Georgia." The head of the Georgian delegation said that the republic's Defense Ministry "intends to continue holding civilized consultations on the question of the transfer of part of the Black Sea Fleet until a mutually acceptable result is achieved." Kiev International Radio cites a spokesman for the Black Sea Fleet saying that the common view of those attending the meeting was that "a transitional period is required to create the naval forces of Georgia stage by stage."

Commercial Space Project To Use SS Missiles

PM2905212992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 May 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Boris Konovalov: "Missiles Need Not Be Destroyed; They Can Be Used For Commercial Space Projects"; throughout item term "rocket" is used as translation for "raketa" and "missile" as translation for "boyevaya raketa"]

[Text] Businessmen in our country are beginning to invest money in the development of our space program. A space project known as "Start-1" [as transliterated], which proposes to use for civilian purposes strategic missile systems known in the West as SS-25, is currently being implemented.

The investor in this project is the I.V.K. commercial joint-stock company, and "Start-1" is being developed by the "Kompleks" scientific and technical center. The first transportable civilian multipurpose rocket complex is being created, from which launches will, in principle, be possible from anywhere. Reliable, solid fuel missiles will launch satellites with a mass of up to 350 kg into low near-Earth orbits. A demonstration launch from the Plesetsk cosmodrome has been scheduled as early as December 1992. In 1993, "Start-1" will enter the space rocket market to provide services below world prices. Instead of nuclear charges, the missiles will carry satellites for scientific research purposes, satellite communication systems, the creation of new materials and substances, prospecting for mineral resouces and ecological monitoring.

Under the commitments accepted by the USSR, whose legal successor Russia has now become, 154 SS-18 liquid-fuel ballistic missiles are subject to destruction, but there are plans to use them for commercial purposes as well. A joint-stock company which is open to foreign participants, has now been organized to create "Lavochkin" technological space complexes, which will be launched into orbit by SS-18 rockets. The name "Lavochkin" honors the initiator of this project—the Lavochkin science-and-production association.

"Lavochkin" can be developed rather quickly, because the Venus landing craft will be used as its basis. It has been proposed for the "Lavochkin" apparatus to be used to produce medical preparations and extrememly pure semiconductor materials. "Lavochkin" will have a strong power system for these purposes, and the absence of cosmonauts will rule out micro-gravitational disturbances.

The SALT Treaty says that long-range missiles can be destroyed [unichtozhat] through launching useful, scientific payloads. So why blow up something that can be of useful service to people? The only cause for regret now is that 700 SS-20 missiles were blown up under the terms of the treaty. If the treaty had been formulated more sensibly, they could also have been utilized for civilian purposes.

'Waiting Line' for Satellite Consumers Formed

PM2805114792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 26 May 92

[Video report by I. Ivanov, S. Urusov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Ivanov] Even not so long ago the inhabitants of the West were intimidated by SS-20 and SS-25 missiles. Then, under the treaties, they simply destroyed them. Now it has been decided to remove the deadly warheads and launch satellites for civilian use into space with the help of the rockets. This was discussed at a news conference in Moscow, where the design of Start, the first Russian space rocket complex, was presented. Its initiator is the joint stock company IVK, and Yegor Gaydar has shown interest in the project; he has included Start in Russia's state space program.

[S. Zinchenko, vice president of IVK] So far this work, which has only just started, has enabled us to save around 5,000 jobs. The total number of personnel involved is up to 15,000. This includes the army subunits of strategic rocket forces—around 10,000 servicemen.

[Ivanov] Strange as it may seem, a spaceflight waiting line has now formed. It is made up of consumers waiting to launch their communications satellites with the assistance of the Russian rockets. Where are they from?

[L. Solomonov, chief designer] The United States, Germany, France, Britain, Brazil. All the advanced countries now need a way of ensuring that their small satellites can be sent out fairly efficiently.

[Ivanov] Incidentally, the Americans are taking $80 million for a piece of a rocket analogous to the SS-20. Putting a payload of 1 kilogram into orbit costs around $10,000. The participants in the news conference believe that the launching of the IVK project will finally enable us to make our conversion profitable. [video shows designs, models]

'Naughty Kids' Could Receive 'Nuclear Flogging'

PM2805124392 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 92 p 1

[Report by Viktor Linnik: "Unremitting Nuclear Thirst"]

[Text] Yet another sensational scandal...NATO's new strategy, which permits a first use of nuclear weapons, has been published. The document confirming this was passed to REUTER by persons "committed to active public discussion of the issues treated in it."

It was adopted in December last year by the NATO countries' ministers of defense, immediately following the USSR's collapse on a heady wave of sovereignization. Here are the most noteworthy excerpts from it: "NATO is now threatened by a danger stemming from

instability in a whole series of regions, including the territory of the former Soviet Union and the Near East...NATO may review the question of the selective use of nuclear weapons with the aim of ending military conflicts." The idea is to use nuclear aviation bombs or sea-launched missiles because, the document says, the capabilities of conventional armed forces could prove insufficient to repulse an aggressor's attack.

Translated from military-political gibberish into ordinary human language, these words say simply: If anyone in the republics of the former USSR misbehaves, then the stern NATO uncles can, if necessary, resort to the nuclear flogging of the naughty pranksters. Since there is no noticeable shortage of "naughty kids" on the territory of the former USSR today, the reader is free to draw his own conclusions.

So, our new "partners" in the West, absolutely incapable of evaluating the rare spiritual nobility of the new generation of Christ-loving rulers in the CIS, are presenting us with one surprise after another. But are they surprises? The Russian president is targeting our nuclear missiles away from the United States (true, without specifying on whom they are now targeted). But the United States does not even entertain the thought of responding in kind, and is still setting its nuclear sights at the Kremlin and Staraya Ploshchad, as if Brezhnev, the superannuated leader of the "evil empire," was still there with his young protege Gorbachev. Bakatin hands over to his friends a unique bugging system—the Americans were plunged into such bewilderment that they did not even offer thanks for such a generous present. Their only response to this princely gesture was to "forget" through a blunder about their submarine in the Barents Sea. Back in the spring of last year the U.S. press published plans for armed intervention in the CIS hot spots—in case the people there really begin to get out of hand. Then it was a question of using conventional armed forces. And now, it turns out, the nuclear bomb may also be entirely suitable.

So then. An entirely muscular response, logical for the United States and NATO, to the new-thinking grimaces of Russian foreign policy. The torrent of foreign tours by Russia's leaders is inversely proportional to their effectiveness and Russia's current weight in world affairs.

What are the advantages? The 24 billion [dollars] promised by the West for the 300 million population of the CIS is akin to the Biblical parable of the seven loaves between 5,000 people. Then of course, this 24 billion does not exist—it is the authorities' latest bluff. Even if you believe in them, this sum does not enter into any comparison with the 11 billion received by Stalin under lend-lease during the Patriotic War. After all, that is about 150 billion in current prices.

Is the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs ready to demand rational explanations from NATO and the United States over this latest nuclear sensation? This is what we would like to know in the "new era" which has set in relations between East and West.

START Protocol Called 'Unilateral Disarmament'

PM0106082192 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 92 p 3

[Yuriy Glukhov "Viewpoint" article: "Unrequited Love"]

[Text] The United States, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Byelarus signed a protocol to the START Treaty in Lisbon 23 May. The treaty was concluded between the United States and the Soviet Union in 1991, but has not been implemented because of the collapse of the USSR. The commitment to carry it out now lies equally with the four former Soviet republics. Thus, seven years after the START Treaty comes into force Ukraine, Byelarus, and Kazakhstan will be completely nonnuclear states, and Russia will be the only legitimate heir to the former Union's nuclear status.

Admittedly, there is a substantial difference between the situation when the START Treaty was concluded and the current situation. The previous parity in relations with the United States no longer exists. Russia is not the Soviet Union, but just part of it. But it is not just a question of a reduction in the scale of the economic, military, and political potential of one of the parties to the treaty.

Other major factors are at work too. The unified strategic space has been destroyed. Russia has no borders that are adequately protected along their entire length. There is no overall defense alliance among the Commonwealth countries. The collective security agreement covers only five of its 11 members. Moreover certain republics, including the largest—Russia and Ukraine—are in a state of conflict. Dependence on foreign aid has grown sharply. A domestic front has been opened—a "hunt for Reds" is under way.

Under these circumstances the signing of the Lisbon protocol by Russia, Ukraine, Byelarus, and Kazakhstan is a goodwill gesture and essentially an act of unilateral disarmament. It has been done without any corresponding step or commitment from the United States and NATO. It is being done at a time when Washington has gotten a taste for strong-arm politics and, in the wake of Iraq, is threatening to punish Yugoslavia.

Judging by everything, nothing was said about this in Lisbon, but it should be recalled for the sake of the truth, since unilateral pacifism is reminiscent of unrequited love.

CSCE Meeting Held in Helsinki; Russians Attend

LD2905193792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1553 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Surikov]

[Text] Helsinki May 29 TASS—At today's sitting of the second working group (deals with security issues) of the Helsinki meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), a representative of the Russian delegation criticized the NATO's approach towards a geographical zone of the application of confidence-building and security measures. The Russian delegation believes the NATO approach actually boils down to the unilateral extension of confidence-building measures in future to the Russian territory from the Urals to the Yenisey River.

We repeatedly stressed a groundless and one-sided character of such an approach. We still consider this proposal to run counter to the major CSCE principles—the equality of rights, a balanced and mutual approach, an equal respect for security interests of all member states and the indivisibility of security in Europe, the Russian representative said.

"I shall remind in this context of our proposal according to which new confidence measures should embrace territories of all member states, including coastal areas and air space. I would like to stress once again that we are not against extending the zone and are ready to agree that this zone would embrace the space from Vancouver to Vladivostok. We only want this idea of extending the zone to be implemented without detriment to interests of member states.

The reason behind the emergence of this extremely complicated situation, if not a deadlock, is not that the Russian delegation refuses to agree to the unilateral extension of the zone of confidence measures by embracing the Russian Trans-Urals region. The point is that some participants do not wish to undertake to carry out future measures on the basis of equality. All that is acceptable to other participants regarding the zone, is acceptable to us as well. However, it would be unreasonable to expect more than that from us, the Russian delegate pointed out.

Admiral on Reduction of Mediterranean Fleet

LD2905234392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1252 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Bukalov]

[Text] Rome, 29 May—"Our military presence in the Mediterranean Sea has been reduced to the minimum, but it can be increased if the need arises," said CIS Navy commander Vladimir Chernavin at a news conference in Rome on 29 May. Chernavin is in Rome on an official visit at the invitation of the Italian Defense Ministry.

Chernavin said the future of the CIS Navy should be determined in accordance with international law. He believes that the Navy should belong to Russia because the Commonwealth of Independent States is not a state. He said other republics may also have naval forces. Chernavin said the dispute over the Black Sea Fleet will have to be settled by the Russian and Ukrainian governments. The sooner this discussion takes place, the better.

The majority of warships carrying strategic weapons should remain under Russia's jurisdiction and be assigned to the CIS joint armed forces. Part of the fleet ships can be handed over to Ukraine to protect its borders and the sea economic zone, Chernavin said. It is true, the admiral noted, that certain Ukrainian representatives consider that the division of the Black Sea Fleet should be carried out in reverse proporations. He confirmed that all nuclear weapons were withdrawn from the ships to Russia on May 6.

Admiral Chernavin said he is an optimist and considers that common sense will overtake our military and state leaders and they will find a resolution to the problem of the Black Sea Fleet, corresponding to the interests of the defense capacity of Russia and the Ukraine as well as other countries of the former USSR.

Chernavin said the transfer of shipyards in the city of Nikolayev under Ukraine's control will not seriously affect the Navy as there are several large shipyards in northern Russia, St. Petersburg, and the Far East. Speaking on the future of the aircraft carrier "Varyag" which is being built, Chernavin said the ship is 60 to 70 percent ready. It will be handed over to Russia's Northern Fleet, which recently received a cruiser capable of carrying helicopters.

The commander in chief [as received] stressed the importance of the military reform in Russia, as a result of which its armed forces, including the Navy, will be significantly reduced and modernized.

Chernavin welcomed cooperation between the Russian and Italian naval forces, which signed an agreement to prevent sea incidents outside their territorial waters three years ago. The sides agreed to boost visits of their warships to Italian and Russian ports. A Russian ship will arrive in Genoa in June to participate in the celebrations of Columbus' journey. In 1996 Russia will celebrate the 300th anniversary of its navy created by Peter the Great.

Russia will celebrate this anniversary as a great naval power, whose presence on all the seas of the world ocean will assist the strengthening of international security and stability.

Black Sea Fleet Issues

Negotiator Cited on Black Sea Fleet Talks

PM0106105592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 May 92 p 1

[Senior Lieutenant V. Fatigarov report: "Georgian Military Delegation Peacefully Sitting at Negotiating Table, But Firmly Demanding Part of Black Sea Fleet Forces"]

[Text] Captain Third Class Andrey Grachev, an officer at the Black Sea Fleet Press Center, has reported that a meeting is being held in Sevastopol between the official Georgian Defense Ministry delegation headed by Deputy Defense Minister Colonel Tomaz Tskhakaya and the group of specialists from the Black Sea Fleet Staff headed by Vice Admiral Georgiy Gurinov, chief of the staff.

At the meeting, the Georgian side proposed that some of the Black Sea Fleet forces located in the republic should be transferred to Georgia. The problems of ensuring the safety of shipping in the Black Sea and the possible training of naval specialists for a Georgian Navy were also examined.

The head of the Georgian delegation particularly stressed the need for a gradual, phased implementation of the decisions to set up Georgia's own armed forces.

"The republic's Defense Ministry," he said, "intends to continue holding civilized consultations on the question of the transfer of part of the Black Sea Fleet until a mutually acceptable result is achieved."

Both sides are satisfied with the results of the meeting, and the proposals elaborated during it will be submitted to the Russian and Georgian Governments.

The Georgian delegation visited Black Sea Fleet warships and units. It also plans to meet with Fleet Commander Admiral Igor Kasatonov and to present him with an official invitation to visit Georgia.

As captain First Class Valeriy Novikov, chief of the Navy Press Service, put it, some Black Sea Fleet forces are currently located on Georgian territory at bases in Poti, Batumi, and Ochamchira.

Fleet Spokesman on Meeting

LD2905222392 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Information provided by UKRINFORM to the effect that a delegation of military specialists of Georgia held talks in Sevastopol with the command of the Black Sea Naval Fleet does not correspond to reality. This was stated by a spokesman for the press center of the Black Sea Naval Fleet, Volodymyr Koshcheyev, in today's interview to a correspondent of the television and radio news agency NOVINY.

He specified that only a working meeting took place between the head of the delegation, deputy defense minister of Georgia; General Tamaz Tskhakaya; and the chief of the headquarters of the Black Sea Naval Fleet, Rear Admiral Georgiy Gurinov. The sides compared their stands on the future of the fleet and discussed issues of mutual interest. The common view was expressed that a transitional period is required to create the naval forces of Georgia stage by stage.

Admiral Interviewed on Black Sea Fleet Problems

PM0106100592 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 May 92 p 1

[Interview with Vice Admiral G.N. Gurinin, chief of staff of the Black Sea Fleet, by A. Orlov; place and date not given: "History Is Putting Us to the Test"—first paragraph is SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA introduction]

[Text] The routine meeting between the Russian and Ukrainian delegations in Dagomys which should have taken place yesterday has again been postponed. The question of the Black Sea Fleet's ownership remains open. In the meantime the Ukrainian Government and Ministry of Defense are, it seems, continuing the fleet's nationalization. Vice Admiral G.N. Gurinin, chief of staff of the Black Sea Fleet, assesses the situation within the fleet and that associated with it.

[Orlov] Georgiy Nikolayevich, your position dictates that you are should be worried first and foremost not by political problems but by specific problems of the fleet's survival...

[Gurinin] Your observation is correct—problems specifically of survival. History is for the umpteenth time testing us—those serving in the Black Sea Fleet—for our endurance. It is as if we are today under blockade—a blockade of problems. The most basic problem is the fleet's lack of status. So the meeting in Dagomys has been postponed again although it is urgent. Up to the present the question of financing the multistructured organ which the fleet is, has not been resolved. We are living without a budget for this year. Hence, the other problems—with house construction, supplies, and ship repairs. And the difficulties with food, fuel, fuel oil, and lubricants...

[Orlov] And manpower acquisition?

[Gurinin] Yes, Ukraine has adopted an unprecedented decision: Only its own draftees can henceforth come and serve in the fleet. What underlies this decision can be divined without difficulty. Those who adopted it are looking to the future. There is, if you can say this, a "Ukrainianization" of the fleet in progress. If the majority is persuaded to take the Ukrainian oath, it is then possible to present all the Commonwealth members with an accomlished fact: The fleet has become Ukrainian.

[Orlov] The example of the oath of loyalty sworn to Ukraine by units of the Ground Forces sets you thinking: Does this show confidence in the future? Especially by the officers.

[Gurinin] We really have before our very eyes a living example of this when a person who has taken the oath twice ultimately becomes unneeded by anyone. There is also another side to the "concern" over the fleet. For example—not because we are some kind of "anti-Ukrainians" as people attempt to accuse us of being—we see that now a law on 18-month military service has been adopted in Ukraine, and this is unacceptable for the fleet. Today we have not yet finished the switch to two-year period of service, and we are discharging two drafts immediately. But to accept "18-month conscripts" means to open the sluice gates to incompetence and accidents. Will it be possible to talk of any kind of combat readiness?

[Orlov] Will it not soon happen that there will be one crew for several ships?

[Gurinin] If manpower acquisition, or to be more precise the discharging of men from the fleet, is going to proceed at this pace, we will clearly arrive at such a practice.

[Orlov] But rising above immediate problems, the situation connected with the Black Sea Fleet is also a historical problem. The Russians will never come to terms with the fact that the fleet which they put together over the centuries is no longer Russian...

[Gurinin] Today history is being rewritten as it suits people. For example, one of Ukraine's historians recently proved "convincingly" when speaking on the radio that Russia never created anything here, and that the fleet has its origins in the ancient river boats and Cossack coracles...

[Orlov] The press has repeatedly suggested that the Black Sea Fleet will weigh anchor and sail off to the Far East, or to the North...

[Gurinin] We are trying to stifle such passions. But as things are the fleet is interpreting every rumor concerning it with heightened sensitivity. We are trying to resolve the questions in a calm way. But unfortunately our opponents are continuing not to observe the moratorium on unilateral actions.

[Orlov] As far as I know the Black Sea Fleet's position is receiving approval, and is even the cause for pride in various sections of the population in Russia...

[Gurinin] From my part I must say that all of the fleet's Military Council, the commander's deputies, the combined units' command, and the majority of crew members, irrespective of their nationality, support the line we have developed.

[Orlov] But do they feel support?

[Gurinin] Yes, they feel great support. Starting with the hundreds and thousands of letters and telegrams which we are receiving from the most diverse people. They are not at all only from Russia. We swore an oath to the whole people...

[Orlov] Incidentally, there are also many letters in the editorial office concerning the fleet, Sevastopol, and Crimea. Many of them express a readiness to set off and assist the inhabitants of Sevastopol and Crimea. How would you reply to such correspondence?

[Gurinin] I would reply: We will maintain our restraint.

Shaposhnikov, Grachev Remark on Fleet Issues

LD3005234792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1950 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Moscow, May 30 TASS—Ukraine does not need a large fleet, CIS Joint Armed Forces Commander Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov said on Saturday [30 May].

In an interview with national television, Shaposhnikov said Ukraine needs a fleet only to protect its sea shore, combat smuggling, and perform rescue operations.

The Black Sea Fleet should belong to the Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces, Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev said. "As for the division of the fleet, it is a long negotiation process which will most likely fail to achieve success," Grachev said.

Commenting on recent mass media reports about Romanian arms supplies to Moldova, Grachev said that according to intelligence reports Romania is supplying Moldova with armoured vehicles and fire arms.

"From the point of view of international relations arms sales are not prohibited. But taking into account the current situation in Moldova, I would consider Romania's supplies of military hardware and weapons illegal and incorrect. Besides, we know that some Romanian specialists are staying in Moldova, while Moldovan representatives are training in Romania," Grachev said.

Ukrainian Officers Recruit Fleet Colleagues

LD0106004592 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2130 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] According to INTERFAX reports, an organizational group of the Ukrainian Navy is continuing to conduct work to persuade servicemen of the Black Sea Fleet to swear allegiance to Ukraine, in contravention of the moratorium on the decrees by the Russian and Ukrainian presidents on the Black Sea Fleet. First-rank Captain Anatoliy Danilov, acting assistant to the commander of the Ukrainian Navy for work with staff, has admitted that every day he and his colleagues each accept forty sympathizers. Danilov is personally continuing to recruit officers of the Black Sea Fleet into Ukraine's naval forces.

Military

CIS General Comments on 14th Army in Moldova

LD2905221392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Over the last few months the Dniester side alone has lost more than 100 people killed, 200 injured, and 50 missing. Major General Nikolay Stolyarov, chairman of the committee for work with personnel at CIS joint Armed Forces, acquainted a group of journalists with these figures on 29 May. Having returned to Moscow from the Dniester region, he organized a news conference. According to Stolyarov, the troops of the 14th Army find themselves hostages to the conflict in the Dniester region and are an object of an unscrupulous game of various forces. However, it is not possible to withdraw them from the center of confrontation at present without unjustified casualties. There is a danger that the weapons of withdrawing units will get into the hands of the fighting parties. According to General Stolyarov, it would be sensible to reach a bilateral agreement based on the fact that the 14th Army, in interaction with formations of the Moldovan Army, could act as a peacemaker and take a position on the borderline of military contact.

Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan Discuss Armies

OW3005001092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2012 GMT 29 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The leaders of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan discussed the cooperation in establishing national armies in Tbilisi this Friday [29 May], the Georgian State Council press center reports. The Transcaucasian military district command initiated the meeting.

The Georgian Premier Tengiz Sigua and his deputy Tengiz Kitovani, Armenian Vice Premier Vigen Chitechyan, Azeri Chief of Staff head Lieutenant-General Valekh Varshatliy and representatives of the Interior Ministries took part.

The parties came to an unanimous conclusion that the process of establishing national armies should be organized, agreed upon, and carried out without affecting the interests of the Transcaucausian military district.

Army Denies Report on Officers' Detention

LD3005210992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1540 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Moscow, 30 May—The CIS unified armed forces press center has refuted a report on television's first channel, as well as one in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, on the detention of six officers of the Main Intelligence Directorate by the Azerbaijani authorities and of the alleged previous expulsion from the Republic of 42 employees of that directorate.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told today at the CIS unified armed forces press center that, in actual fact, on 26 May six servicemen of the Caucasian Military District's Main Intelligence Directorate were detained illegally in Azerbaijan, but were released 15 hours later.

Having acknowledged the groundlessness of their detention, the Azerbaijani Ministries of Defense and Internal Affairs presented their official apologies to the district command.

As far as the information on the expulsion from Azerbaijan of 42 Main Intelligence Directorate employees, according to a statement by the CIS unified armed forces press center, it is false. The units deployed in Azerbaijan, including military intelligence subunits, are part of the Caucasian Military District. None has been deported over the period the troops have been stationed in the Caucasus.

Recent "sensational" reports by the media do not correspond to reality and cause moral damage not only to the Army but to Russia as a whole, the CIS unified armed forces press center considers.

Central Asian Meeting Urges Troops Withdrawal

LD3005193292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] A number of documents were adopted at the meeting of the Democratic Congress of Central Asia and Kazakhstan held in Bishkek. This was reported in an interview with INTERFAX by Turgunaliyev, one of the leaders of that movement.

A statement on troops on the territory of Central Asia and Kazakhstan was adopted at the meeting. The document states that, as new independent states are being created, the armed forces of the former Union continue to serve Russian interests under the pretext of protecting the Russian-speaking population. In fact, they interfere in the internal affairs of the states and may become the guarantors of the existence of totalitarian regimes. The Democratic Congress of Central Asia and Kazakhstan demands that the armed forces in the Central Asian region which are under Russian jurisdiction either must be withdrawn immediately or transferred to the jurisdiction of these states.

Baltic Assembly Calls For Army Withdrawal

LD3105150192 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1300 GMT 31 May 92

["Text" of appeal on the withdrawal of the Russian Army from the Baltic states issued by the Baltic Assembly in Lithuania; date not given]

[Text] In spite of the many demands by the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of

Latvia, the Baltic Assembly, and the Baltic States Council regarding the unconditional and undelayed withdrawal of the Russian Army from the Baltic states, its withdrawal has practically not started. In addition, sovereignty continues to be violated, the laws of Baltic states and the decisions of the governments are not complied with, and new Russian soldiers are being brought in.

The fact that Russia refuses to transfer the protection of Lithuania's, Latvia's, and Estonia's state borders is also without precedent.

It appears as though Russia is interested in leaving its army within the Baltic states for a long time. This raises a threat to people's security and interferes with the successful implementation in the Baltic states of social and economic reforms, the development of democracy, and the strengthening of independence.

The hotbed of tension near the Baltic, may become an additional factor of instability in Europe.

Being aware of its responsibility concerning security and stability in Europe and the world, the Baltic Assembly appeals to all parliaments and interparliamentary organizations to focus attention on the fact that Russia continues to violate the sovereign rights of the Baltic states and to help to completely liquidate the results of the criminal Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact.

The Baltic Assembly is of the opinion that CSCE representatives should, in the capacity of authoritative [word indistinct], participate in the bilateral negotiations between the Baltic states and Russia regarding the Army's withdrawal.

The Baltic Assembly appeals to the CSCE to include the following principles in the documents of the state leaders participating in the CSCE conference in Helsinki.

A state that is a member of the CSCE must implement without delay the demands of another member state of the CSCE and to withdraw unconditionally its army from the territory of that country. Circumstances to the contrary will result in its being regarded by CSCE members to be in violation of CSCE principles.

The states of the CSCE will regard that the army illegally present on the territory of another state, which is a member of the CSCE, threatens the security and stability of the region and will consider that region as a potential conflict region.

The CSCE participants will discuss the elimination of the threat through the mechanism of the Helsinki process.

Signed: Baltic Assembly Presidium Chairman Aurimas Taurantas, Lithuania; Baltic Assembly Presidium Deputy Chairman Marius Budovskis, Latvia; Baltic Assembly Presidium Deputy Chairman Ulo Nugis, Estonia.

Media

ITAR-TASS Reviews Moscow 29 May Evening Press

LD3005041592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2255 GMT 29 May 92

["Review of Moscow Evening Papers"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 29 May (ITAR-TASS)—[Passage omitted] "The principal task is to stabilize the situation in the republic in the shortest time possible. The very first steps to be taken will, naturally, be those to stop the Armenian aggression," said Isa Kambarov, speaker of Azerbaijan's parliament, in his interview with IZVESTIYA. Then, according to him, there will be considerably more chances for carrying out radical economic and political reforms. "We made our aim public long ago; it is the construction of a law-governed, democratic and secular state," Isa Kambarov pointed out. "We will pursue a foreign and domestic policy based on the principles laid down by the UN and the CSCE." [passage omitted]

IZVESTIYA reports that a group of influential French financiers and entrepreneurs has concluded an agreement with the administration of the ZIL Association (one of the country's largest car manufacturers) on conducting an audit and providing advisory services connected with preparing the enterprise for privatization. "An unprecedented sum of $1 million has been earmarked, to be spent on checking the level of organization of the operation, as well as the economic and social aspects of ZIL's condition. It comes from the fund of technical aid to Russia, which stems from an agreement reached during Yeltsin's visit to Paris last February," the newspaper says. [passage omitted]

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 30 May

LD3005053492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0441 GMT 30 May 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 30 (ITAR-TASS)—Today's newspapers report the completion of a two-day working tour of the Republic of Buryatia by Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Friday [29 May]. Before departure from Ulan Ude, the president addressed city folk in the main square of the city, announcing that Russia and the Buryat Republic had signed an economic agreement.

Under the headline "An Appeal by Tajikistan" PRAVDA carries the text of a special statement by the republic's state commission for emergency situations. The statement calls "on fellow-countrymen, the governments of CIS countries and foreign states to render help in view of the "disastrous calamity that hit most of Tajikistan's areas in May this year." [quotation marks as received] Expert conclusion is that "a direct damage inflicted by devastating mud torrents, freshets and floods

has amounted to more than 10,000 million rubles. The republic is on the verge of economic disaster."

Economic issues figure importantly in today's press. In a commentary on the present state of affairs in Russia's defence sector, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR) states that the sector "is experiencing an acute crisis". The newspaper believes that a delay in the elaboration of documents necessary for the normal functioning of the sector would lead to a situation in which Russia's defence sector "would get ruined and the restoration of Russia's defence shield would require a great deal more funds and would demand such strenuous efforts that the people would hardly endure."

"The disaster in Russia has become total. The country is being pushed to the bottom of the pit from which it would be impossible to get out" is how Academician Gennadiy Osipov, director of the Institute of Socio-Political Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, in a PRAVDA interview, estimates the economic and socio-political situation in the Russian Federation.

Osipov believes that production should be at the centre of economic reform "which should be based on interaction and a blend of market and state regulators". The academician is of the opinion that an economic stabilisation "could be also promoted by a monetary reform the meaning of which is to put the ruble on the same footing as the dollar".

Today's newspapers again discuss topical problems being encountered by the Armed Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States. In an interview with KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, Lieutenant-General Vorobev, chief of the central financial agency of the Armed Forces, calls for the need to establish a fund inside the Armed Forces for the social support of the Army.

The general believes that "it was precisely a low remuneration of labour that was one of the main causes why most of 20,000 officers quit the Army of their own accord over the past year alone in view of personnel cuts.

"The military doctrine of Byelarus is of purely defensive nature," Colonel-General Pavel Kozlovsky, defence minister of the republic which is a member of the Commonwealth of Independent States, said in an interview with KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

"It is planned to relieve the republic of strategic weapons soon (apart from tactical nuclear weapons which have already been removed from its territory) and substantially to reduce the number of tanks," he said. The minister also emphasised that after a planned reduction in the Byelarus Army personnel, the Army be at a strength of up to 90,000.

In view of the beginning of a visit to Russia (scheduled for Monday) by President Frederik de Klerk of South Africa, the first-ever visit in the history of bilateral relations, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA points out that "the Russian side associates expectations of further development of bilateral relations with the South African president's visit."

The newspaper recalls that diplomatic relations between the two countries were established three months ago and that embassies in Moscow and Johannesburg already function.

Changes taking place in NATO are the subject of comment by PRAVDA's news analyst Vladimir Peresada. In his view, "NATO does change but only within the limits that are of benefit to the bloc itself and, most importantly, to those who playing the leading role in it".

PRAVDA carries an exclusive interview with Sumio Edamura, new Japanese ambassador to Moscow, who dwelt in detail on the "territorial issue" and on its effect on the development on Japanese-Russian relations.

The ambassador "highly appreciated a clear-cut statement made by the Russian Foreign Ministry in the foreign policy report at the recent Congress of People's Deputies that, in any case, to leave territorial problems in a suspended state would mean failure to utilise large reserves of Russia's policy with regard to Japan."

International Affairs

More on Relations With, Policy on Yugoslavia

Efforts To Continue

LD2905222492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Russia will continue to use every possibility to prompt the parties in the conflict in Bosnia-Hercegovina to comply with the CSCE decisions. Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev stated this on 29 May. He expressed regret at the recall of the representatives of Bosnia-Hercegovina from the talks in Lisbon aimed at finding a settlement of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia.

Kozyrev on 'Last Chance' Visit

PM2905183592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 May 92 Morning Edition p 6

[Report by Maksim Yusin: "Storm Clouds Gathering Over Belgrade. Andrey Kozyrev's Visit Was Possibly the Last Chance to Influence Serbia and Prevent International Sanctions"]

[Text] "We have done all we can to help our friends in Serbia and the other republics to find a way out of the crisis. Unfortunately, there are forces that will not take friendly advice, that only understand the language of diktat. They obviously underestimate Russia's role as a great power.... Friendly relations do not mean conniving with those who are openly flouting CSCE principles. I would like them to appreciate that in Belgrade." It is unusual to hear such strong words on the lips of Andrey Kozyrev, who prefers to couch his thoughts in gentle, more diplomatic forms, avoiding strong views.

The Russian foreign minister's tour of the former Yugoslav republics confirmed the worst fears: The crisis has gone too far. Hopes that it would be possible to halt the conflict by diplomatic means, without outside interference, are dwindling. Kozyrev's visit was possibly the last chance to influence the opposing sides, mainly Serbia and Serbian armed formations in Bosnia, and show what a serious turn events are taking: "Either our friends in Belgrade and the other conflict participants take concrete steps within the new few hours, let alone days, to escape from the crisis, or we will be forced to talk with them in a different language," the Russian minister said.

What this language is can be judged from the European Community's latest steps—tough economic sanctions have been introduced against Serbia and Hercegovina. However, to all appearances, it does not stop at sanctions. International armed interference, which appeared impossible just a few weeks ago, is now becomeing an increasingly real prospect. Bosnia and Croatia are openly calling for it, in the belief that other ways of ending the bloodshed are exhausted. U.S. and European leaders are speaking in steely tones.

The storm clouds are gathering over Belgrade. During his tour Kozyrev had two meetings with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, desperately trying to persuade him to stop before it is too late. Milosevic insisted that Belgrade is not controlling the actions of Serbian formations in Bosnia and Hercegovina, and he is not in charge of the Yugoslav army servicemen fighting on the side of the Bosnian Serbs.

This may well be true. We well know from our own experience that armies and divisions formally under Russian jurisdiction by no means, always operate in accordance with orders from Moscow. The most recent example of this is the 14th Army in the Dniester Region, and one may recall the actions of the 366th regiment in Karabakh.

The West has decided for itself once and for all that Serbia is to blame. The actions of the Bosnian Serbs are clearly associated with Belgrade. Russia adopts a different approach. Certainly, Serbia is chiefly responsible for the emergence of the Bosnian conflict. However, according to our diplomats, Milosevic has now, to a large extent, lost control of the situation in the neighboring republic. In fact, it is hard to believe that Belgrade gave the order to mortar the center of Sarajevo, thus killing 16 people a few hours after the truce—reached through Russia's mediation amd supported by Serbia, came into force. Yugoslavia officially condemned this act and demanded an international investigation.

Of course, judging by the Belgrade press and speeches by the leaders of nationalist parties, the war in Bosnia is their war and Serbia is a country at war. Yugoslavia is not formally involved in the Bosnian conflict. The army is withdrawing from the republic and Milosevic is calling for a cease-fire. Kozyrev tried to exploit this difference between the official position and the real state of affairs during his visit.

If Serbia is not involved in the war and, at international forums, is describing events in Bosnia as an internal conflict in a neighboring republic, then, pursuing this to its logical conclusion, it will have to admit that the introduction of an international force into Bosnia at the request of that state's leadership would not be aggression against Serbia and would be perfectly justified legally.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the world community will not tolerate a continuing bloodbath in Bosnia and Hercegovina. There are only two sensible ways out of this situation as far as Milosevic is concerned. If, despite his official assertions, the Serbian president still has significant influence on his compatriots in Bosnia, he must make them at least stop shelling Sarajevo, remove the airport blockade, and seriously embark on talks on a political settlement. If Belgrade does not indeed have control over the actions of the Bosnian Serbs, Milosevic has the chance to save face, withdraw from a game that is becoming increasingly dangerous, and in due course, take his republic out of international isolation and get

the sanctions lifted. In that event, Kozyrev promised Belgrade Russian support in the CSCE and United Nations.

Of course, the Serbs could choose a third option—further confrontation with the world community, which is utterly futile, since Belgrade has no chance of victory in it. Even Russia—all but Serbia's sole potential ally in Europe—made it clear, through Kozyrev, that if that was they way things developed Milosevic should not bank on our solidarity.

As the Russian minister warned, Belgrade has only days left, if not hours. A draft UN Security Council resolution making provision for unprecedented sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro has already been prepared. It will be submitted for discussion at the end of this week, or early next week at the very latest. Unless Serbia shows flexibility at the last moment and pledges to fulfill all previous UN and CSCE decisions, sanctions will almost certainly be adopted. Russia will most likely vote "in favor"; it may possibly abstain, but it can be virtually ruled out that it will use its veto and block the resolution.

Once it is adopted, the prospects for Serbia look dismal. Our traditional ally—an Orthodox, Slav republic—will become an outcast from the world community, but Russia cannot oppose the Security Council. That would jeopardize our own relations with the West and give rise to suspicions among the states of Central Europe, to say nothing of our CIS partners, who often draw parallels between Moscow and Belgrade, which found themselves in similar positions after the disintegration of socialist federations. Support for Serbia, which is gambling on strong-arm tactics, will be perceived by our neighbors as a danger signal: that Russia is preparing to follow a similar path.

At the same time, the sad experience of the Serbs, who have gained nothing from the war except the smoldering ruins of Bukovar and have plunged their republic into isolation and their economy into grave crisis, should act like a cold shower on those people in the Russian parliament who hope to resolve differences with their neighbors by force of arms.

Nonetheless, hopes for a settlement of the Bosnian crisis still remain. "Milosevic did not make an impression of hopelessness on me," Kozyrev said after his talk with him. "I still believe that the Serbian president will use his authority to reverse the course of events." It would be nice to hope that the Russian minister was not wasting his time by spending nearly a week flying from one former Yugoslav republic to another, and that his appeals will have an effect (albeit belated) on Serbian politicians both in Serbia itself and in Bosnia.

"The main thing is to withdraw the troops to the regions where their ethnic groups are concentrated, not to carry out offensive operations, and only to respond to armed attacks," Kozyrev believes. All this applies, naturally, not only to the Serbs, but also to the Croats and Muslims, especially since the latter bear a certain share of the responsibility for the escalation of the Bosnian conflict.

However, today it is the Serbs who control the military situation, it is they who, having taken control of the heights that dominate Sarajevo, are shelling the city—where, incidentally, not only Muslims, but also their own compatriots live—and it is the Serbs (32 percent of the republic) who have seized two-thirds of its territory. It is against them that international military intervention will be launched, if events develop according to the worst-case scenario. That is why it now depends on the Serbs whether or not this scenario can be avoided.

Russia Votes For UN Sanctions

LD3005191392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0928 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Moscow, 30 May (ITAR-TASS)—A statement by the Russian Government has been released here on 30 May. It says:

Russia is doing everything to strengthen the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation with the Yugoslav peoples, to bring peace back to their land, and to guarantee them freedom and independence. That is the point of the unprecedented steps we have undertaken recently to accommodate Serbia, Croatia, and all the sovereign states that have replaced the former Yugoslavia.

Up to now, however, Belgrade has not heeded our good counsel and warnings, and has failed to fulfill the demands of the international community, thus bringing sanctions upon itself from the United Nations.

In voting for these sanctions, Russia is discharging its responsibility as a great power for the maintenance of international law and order. At the same time, we believe that the Security Council should go further and take responsibility for a settlement in Bosnia-Hercegovina and the Yugoslav crisis as a whole, using all the means laid down in the UN Charter to restore peace.

The accords arrived at with all the opposing sides during the trip by the Russian foreign minister provide a good basis for this. An international commission should be set up to identify and punish those who have been specifically responsible for deaths among the civilian population in Sarajevo and other places.

In order to put a stop to current fratricidal wars deriving from interethnic conflicts and to avert fresh ones, the Security Council, possibly in consultation with the CSCE, should work out a list of criteria in the near future on the basis of which the UN secretary general would automatically propose for consideration by the Council the question of sanctions against those who bear primary responsibility for bloodshed and other decisive actions by the world community.

Bosnia Requests Intervention

PM0106085592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 May 92 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by Boris Rodionov: "West Seeks International Sanctions Against Serbia"]

[Excerpts] The evacuation of federal army servicemen from the blockaded barracks in Sarajevo began 24 May and will be continued on 25 May, REUTER has reported. The withdrawal of convoys of army infantry fighting vehicles and trucks is so far proceeding in an organized manner, without excesses. [passage omitted]

In the prevailing situation, special importance attached to the continuing mediating mission of Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev. His Bosnian counterpart asked the head of the Russian diplomatic service to use Moscow's traditional ties with Belgrade for a peaceful solution of the conflict and primarily to open up Sarajevo airport. Russia is urging that there should be no haste in applying new sanctions. However, Kozyrev stated, friendly relations with Belgrade do not mean that Russia has renounced the need to fulfill the CSCE and UN decisions.

Grachev Says Romania Sells Arms To Moldova

LD3005224392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The Commonwealth border troops press center on 30 May refuted press reports that Romanian arms are being supplied to Moldova. The press center has indicated that only 20 armored personnel carriers [bronetransporter] and several vehicles used to build pontoon bridges have crossed the border. I am afraid that it will be more difficult for the border troops to refute the Russian defense minister. Pavel Grachev has reliable sources.

[Begin recording] [Grachev] According to our intelligence reports, it is true that the Romanian side is shipping armored [bronetankovoye] equipment and firearms to Moldova. How should I comment on this? By the rules of international relations, the sale of arms is not prohibited, but if one takes into account the current situation in Moldova—the internal conflict has developed far enough and, if a civil war has not been unleashed so far, the conditions obviously exist for such a war—I consider this side's supply of arms and military equipment to be unlawful and impolite. We even have information that a number of Romanian specialists are on the territory of Moldova and that Moldovan representatives are undergoing training in Romania.

[Unidentified correspondent] Could you tell us whether the civil war will develop into a conflict between two states?

[Grachev] This has been ruled out. Such a thing will not happen. [end recording]

Yeltsin, Kravchuk To Discuss Fleet in Jun

LD3005194592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] RIA reports that the summit between Presidents Yeltsin and Kravchuk should take place in Dagomys during the first half of June. They have a formidable task: To defuse all the acute irritants in Russian-Ukrainian relations. One of the problems is the Black Sea Fleet. The expert assessment is that a solution could be found by top-ranking military officers in Moscow on the eve of the summit.

[Begin recording] [Yevgeniy I. Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS combined armed forces] Ukraine does not need a large navy. Ukraine needs a navy to handle coastal security, antismuggling operations, search and rescue, and so on. We have estimated that around 20 percent of the fleet could go to Ukraine. Right now this issue is not mine to decide.

[Russian Defense Minister Pavel S. Grachev] The Black Sea Fleet should be the common property of the CIS combined armed forces. Regarding its partition, there will be a lengthy negotiation process that is highly unlikely to lead to a successful conclusion. [end recording]

Status of 14th Army in Dniester Region Noted

Military Official Comments

LD2905200792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1917 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS—The Dniester side alone has lost over 100 people killed, 200 wounded and 50 missing over the past few months, Chairman of the CIS Allied Armed Forces' Committee on Work with Personnel Air Force Major-General Nikolay Stolyarov told correspondents upon his return from the Dniester region.

Every day of delay in the regional settlement is mothers' tears, which political ambitions, stubbornness and unwillingness to reach a compromise do not worth [as received], said Stolyarov.

The large-scale combat operations in the Dniester area will inevitably turn into a war without winners, everyone will lose, including those staying hundreds kilometers away from the opposition line.

The wave of violence and cruelty is at the entrance to our own home, said the general, who within a week visited all

units of the 14th Army, met Dniester guards, Cossacks and representatives of the Moldovan leadership.

The units of the 14th Army appeared to be hostages and an object of various speculations and an unscrupulous game. However, it is now impossible to withdraw them from the conflict hotbed without unjustified losses, believes Stolyarov.

Half of the officers are tied to the region with their apartments, many years of service and their descend [as received] and they will not leave the place. If one tries to withdraw the others, armaments and material will get into the hands of the conflicting sides.

Asked what settlement mechanism he can offer to the Russian and Moldovan foreign ministers, the general said "it would be wise to reach a bilateral agreement on the peace-making role of the 14th Army in contact with units of the Moldovan National Army. They two should take the combat contact line to create conditions for normal development of negotiations process on the Dniester region status."

If the Dniester region is an object of a large-scale aggression, there will be hardly a force to prevent the Army from protecting civilians. The general said he has come to this conclusion after estimating the moral and psychological condition of the personnel.

He stressed there are no grounds to speak about 14th Army units' large-scale joining of the Dniester republic, not recognized by Chisinau. However, the Army's profound concern over the fate of civilians in the Dniester region is clear.

Next week Stolyarov plans to visit the Dniester region again.

Stankevich Comments

OW2905215892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2011 GMT 29 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian state political adviser Sergey Stankevich said that there can be no aggression in Moldova on the part of Russia. Commenting on events in the Dniester region in Moscow Friday [29 May], Stankevich noted that "Russia has no reasons to seek military confrontation with Moldova". At the same time, it should be clear that a military solution of the Dniester conflict is absolutely unacceptable for Russia.

In the opinion of Stankevich, the Dniester conflict could be long ago resolved if Chisinau had recognized the region's "elementary and natural right" to be part of Moldova. However, the Moldovan authorities "are creating an artificial stalemate declaring the general mobilization of reserve military servicemen, preventing people from working peacefully and stirring up hatred".

The Russian state adviser expressed confidence that "the one-sided and openly militaristic position of some politicians in Chisinau" does not reflect the real interests and sentiments of the Moldovan people".

*** Meanwhile, Chairman of the committee on personnel attached to the CIS Joint Armed Forces Command, Major-General Nikolay Stolyarov told IF's [INTERFAX's] correspondent that "each day of politicians' delay in settling the Dniester conflict, causes a great damage". Stolyarov who by order of the Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev studies the situation in the Dniester region last week reported that the coflict had already claimed lives of more than 100 people on the side of the Dniester region. At least 200 were wounded and nearly 50 are missing.

In the opinion of Stolyarov, "these victims are too much for political ambitions of both sides which are instigating large-scale military operations". There is only one way to solve the problem, he stressed, i.e. "negotiations aimed at finding a mutually acceptable political solution".

The General warned that if large-scale military operations begin, the whole territory of the Dniester region "can be transformed into a guerrilla camp", and then the war can become lingering and unpredictable.

Kozyrev on 'Confidence-Building'

PM0106090392 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 May 92 p 1

[Report by Colonel N. Mulyar and Major A. Stasovskiy: "Dniester Region: Weapons Becoming Main Argument, With Little Hope of Talks"]

[Text] There has been no letup in the tension in the Dniester region. Firefights continue and people are being killed.

The Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs Press Center has reported that, while supporting units from the 14th Army, Dniester region guard subunits had shelled the villages of Rogi, Korzhevo, and Koshnitsa in the Dubossary area, and had launched an attack on the village of Kochiyery in Dubossarskiy Rayon. The attack was repulsed. One tank and two armored transports were destroyed, one man was killed, and 11 were wounded. The wounded included four policemen; the rest were locals.

The Dubossary authorities confirmed the destruction of the tank and armored transports, but denied the report of the attack on the police position. According to information received from them, Rogi village was being shelled with heavy mortars by the Moldovan police.

More than 200 people have left the village, which is 6 km from Dubossary. On 25 May, Rogi came in for heavy artillery bombardment. Many houses were destroyed or burned down. Women, old men, and children fearfully

crossed a minefield to the Dniester region guards' positions. From there they were taken to places of safety in the Dniester region and Ukraine.

This information was received by the editorial office from the Dniester region press center. They also told us that Dubossary had been shelled over the weekend.

There are also reports at the Dniester region press center of military hardware being redeployed in the direction of Dubossary. According to information available to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, three to five carloads of hardware and weapons are being shipped every day from Romania to Moldova via Ungeny. Around 40 T-55 tanks are already concentrated in the area of Golerkane village and at the test range of a former airborne assault regiment deployed in Chisinau. Moldova has also received 50 items of engineering equipment, including pontoons.

Yet on 24 May, the Moldovan mass media disseminated President Mircea Snegur's ordinance on measures to protect the republic from armed aggression by 14th Army units and subunits.

The document identifies a number of steps aimed at protecting Moldova's independence and territorial integrity. The authorities have been forced to resort to them in accordance with the republic's law on the Armed Forces. On the whole, the ordinance shows that the republic is moving to a military footing, the MOLDOVA-PRESS agency reports.

For his part, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev called the 24 May Lisbon talks between the leaders of the Russian, Ukrainian, Moldovan, and Romanian foreign policy departments "one of the last attempts to stop an escalation of the confrontation in the Dniester region."

In conversation with journalists, Kozyrev said that the warring factions should now carry out "high-profile confidence-building measures" and immediately disband their armed formations.

However, in the Dniester Region it seems that few people are pinning any hope on talks and are preparing for major trials instead. At any rate, deputies from the Dniester Moldavian Republic Supreme Soviet have issued an ultimatum to the residents of a number of Moldovan Left-Bank villages located within the armed conflict zone, demanding that they influence the Moldovan police and force them to abandon their defensive positions.

Kozyrev, Moldovan Minister's Talks Postponed

OW0106113392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1109 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A meeting between Russia's Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and his Moldova's opposite number Nicolae Tiu, planned in Moscow on June 1st, has been postponed, the Director of the Information and Press Department at Russia's Foreign Ministry Sergey Yastrzhembskiy has reported to "INTERFAX". The Ministers were expected to examine the situation in Dniester and ways to withdraw from there the 14th Army of the former USSR, being stationed under Russia's jurisdiction in the region.

In Mr. Yastrzhembskiy's words, the postponement is "due technical and other reasons": throughout the day on Monday [1 June], Mr. Kozyrev will be busy with a major guest—President Frederick de Klerk of South Africa who has arrived on a visit in Moscow. Sources in Chisinau blame the delay on failure to settle a number of details on time.

Meanwhile, Russia's Foreign Ministry has voiced the view that a meeting will take place within the next few days, "possibly as early as Tuesday" [2 June], a Foreign Ministry spokesman has said.

Uzbekistan's Karimov Arrives for Talks

Friendship Treaty Signed

LD3005141192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1247 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 30 May—Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Uzbek President Islam Karimov signed a treaty on the foundations of interstate relations, friendship, and cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan in the Kremlin on 30 May.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Boris Yeltsin noted that a treaty of this sort has been concluded between the two states for the first time. He said that of late, the need for it has been especially apparent. After the disintegration of the Union, comprehensive cooperation between our republics, which has always been quite intensive, has badly needed a serious legal basis. With the signing of the treaty, Russia and Uzbekistan have a real possibility of giving a new impetus to bilateral relations in economic, political, military, humanitarian and other fields.

Islam Karimov, who spoke later, pointed out the serious role that Russia played as a great power in all spheres of life. We recognize and understand Russia's significance and its interests in our region, he continued. At the same time we understand very well that without mutually beneficial cooperation and without the support provided by Russia's potential, our neighbors as well as we ourselves would find it hard to believe in the prospect of getting out of the critical situation that we have all found ourselves in.

Attends Signing Ceremony

LD3005155192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1215 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] The treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid between Russia and Uzbekistan was signed an hour ago on 30 May, at the Great Kremlin Palace in Moscow. Here is what Presidents Boris Yeltsin and Islam Karimov said during the ceremony:

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] I am deeply convinced that the strengthening of our states' independence is not an obstacle to the development of the traditional relations of friendship and trust. On the contrary, it is precisely now, when Uzbekistan and Russia have recognized each other as equal partners—not just in words but in reality—that our cooperation can take on a completely new quality. It is all the more valuable because it has already been developing for many centuries. Our duty to past and future generations is to preserve and strengthen it at all costs.

The Russian-Uzbek treaty is important not just as a document regulating bilateral relations. It is capable of playing a positive role in strengthening the Commonwealth of Independent States. I cannot agree with the opinion that the concluding of such bilateral treaties indicates that there is some sort of crisis in the CIS. On the contrary, the states that play an active role in the Commonwealth and are devoted to strengthening it are also the ones that are moving forward most dynamicly in the development of bilateral relations. One does not exclude but presupposes the other.

To a considerable extent, it is precisely the mechanism of the Commonwealth and the positive results of the meetings of the leaders of the Commonwealth states in Alma-Ata, Minsk, Kiev, and Tashkent which have made it possible for us to reach agreement, more quickly, on fundamental questions. I hope that the new level of Russian-Uzbek relations will provide a useful incentive to enriching mutual links between the states of the CIS.

I would like to dwell, in particular, on the economic aspect of the treaty. Under the conditions of the acute crisis that both Russia and Uzbekistan are undergoing, it is not easy to maintain stability in our links. Economic disorders cause constant strains in reciprocal supplies, complicate production cooperation, and hinder trade. Of course, all problems cannot be solved at once. Both Uzbekistan and Russia have reached agreement on the main issue, which is that the successful implementation of reform is vital for stable economic relations. We have agreed to coordinate our actions and to carry them out in such a way so as not to harm each other.

There is one other important aspect: In economic relations, Russia and Uzbekistan regard each other as priority partners. The signing of this document lays particular responsibility on us for fulfilling mutual obligations. I think that in the near future we will be able to resolve a number of the acute problems which are most painful for our states, enterprises, and citizens. We already have the appropriate mechanisms.

The document signed 30 May contains important mutual obligations by the parties on the guarantees of the rights and freedoms of national minorities. Our states have been historically formed as multinational. It would be a big mistake to break historical reality. We think that Russia cannot be a country only for Russians. It is the property of all the peoples living in it irrespective of numbers, historical destiny, or cultural peculiarities. I am confident that Uzbekistan shares our position in similar matters and will not allow discrimination against the rights of the Russians who have found their motherland in your republic.

[Karimov] We correctly assess Russia's role as a guarantor in preserving stability and peace in our region and in preserving the integrity of our borders. Our treaty relations with Russia will be built on complete equality, respect, and noninterference into each other's internal affairs. The treaty opens a new page in our mutual relations. I am confident that it responds to the aspirations and expectations of the peoples of Uzbekistan and the peoples of Russia. [end recording]

I would like to mention one side of this treaty. I think the so-called Russian-speaking population will perceive it with great hope. I went to Tashkent recently when the preparatory work in connection with this treaty was under way there, and I could see a certain anxiety among the people about their fate. It is there. There are no concrete reasons for this, but many feel uncertainty, specifically in connection with the formation of the CIS. Now, perhaps, there will be fewer doubts of this sort there.

Comments on New Treaty

LD3005184892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1728 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 30 May—Russian President Boris Yeltsin considers it especially important now to put economic relations between the CIS member-states in order and to strengthen them on the basis of the market. In his opinion this will permit production to be restored after the slump and more stable market development to be guaranteed.

Answering journalists' questions today after the signing in the Kremlin of the treaty on the foundations for interstate relations, friendship, and cooperation between Russia and Uzbekistan, Yeltsin acknowledged that "we had difficulties in achieving this treaty, but our points of view on a number of matters gradually came closer and we finally reached a full accord." Boris Yeltsin reported that specific volumes for the mutual supply of cotton and fuel have been determined. The treaty takes effect from the moment it is signed.

Touching on his visit to Altay Kray and the Republic of Buryatiya which ended 29 May, the Russian president noted that private farming is developing very quickly in Buryatiya despite the fact that this process is taking place unevenly throughout the Russian Federation as a whole, as "there are forces that strongly oppose it." "In Altay Kray," he said, "I was convinced that the director of one state farm was not only impeding the work of private farmers but also hated them because they work better and earn more."

In Yeltsin's opinion a "critical mass" should be accumulated whereby the number of individual farmers will be such that the other part of the people in the countryside will be unable to resist. The president stressed that "decollectivization should not be carried out by violent methods. It should be a voluntary process."

President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov noted that every region should choose its own path toward market relations. Two years ago, just 205,000 hectares were in the possession of individual farms in Uzbekistan; today that figure is 730,000 hectares. In his words, that is the most convincing proof of the correctness of the chosen path. This also explains the fact that the situation in the markets of Uzbekistan is better than in other regions. However, Karimov said, strong resistance has to be overcome.

He stressed the great significance of preserving the stability and unshakeability of the borders of the CIS member-states. In this connection, the president of Uzbekistan pointed out that the treaty on collective security which was signed at the meeting of heads of state of CIS members in Tashkent "had a sobering effect upon the forces in our region which thought that borders could be easily changed."

Further Comments

LD3005194392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] The presidents of Russia and Uzbekistan signed a treaty on the foundation for interstate relations, friendship, and cooperation in the Kremlin today. Boris Yeltsin and Islam Karimov consider that bilateral treaties permitting links within the Commonwealth of Independent States have been intensified. Both presidents noted the importance of the economic section of the treaty, in which both states consider themselves priority partners. Answering a question from our correspondent about the role of bilateral accords in the future of the CIS, Boris Yeltsin said:

[Begin Yeltsin recording] When the disintegration of the Union occurred because of the putsch, links started to break down. People did not believe in enterprises, in organizations, and so on. There was no legal basis, as it were; it all fell apart. Everyone felt this—absolutely everyone—all states felt it. There was also a slump in industry in both Uzbekistan and Russia. It is particularly important now to put these links in order, and not just establish them but strengthen them somehow on a free basis, on the basis of the market, so that we can restore production and enable it to develop further in a more stable manner. All the more so, considering that our links with Uzbekistan are very, very important.

You know that the Ivanovo texile workers have been very worried about the cotton issue. I am very grateful to Islam Abduganiyevich, who has responded immediately. A schedule has now been established and a precise amount has been set, 800,000 tonnes, which has very great economic significance. Accordingly, we have agreed on an equivalent figure in fuel. These agreements represent the accord we have achieved. Frankly speaking, we did not reach agreement easily on this treaty, as there were differing opinions on some issues. We gradually got around them, however, and moved closer, in the end coming into full accord. [end recording]

Further on Latvian Talks on Troop Withdrawal

LD2905022192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] The issue of the withdrawal of troops from the Baltic countries has gained some prominence over the last few days. On 27 May, talks between Russia and Lithuania were held in regards to this problem. On 28 May, the Russian-Latvian talks were completed. Russia offered to withdraw its troops from Latvia by 1999, while the Latvian Republic insists 1993 should be the deadline. As the negotiations progressed, the two parties found themselves unable to reach an agreement. Our correspondent Vyacheslav Osipov reports in more detail:

[Osipov] In contrast to 27 May's news conference at Lithuania's mission in Moscow, the Latvians acted more wisely: They invited Sergey Zotov, head of the Russian delegation, to their embassy. There, the journalists heard two opinions and two assessments of one and the same problem. Russia's delegation commented positively on the dialogue that had taken place. Specific guidelines have been blueprinted covering economic, humanitarian, and legal issues. Special envoy Sergey Zotov offered this assessment:

[Begin Zotov recording] Russia's delegation thinks it important that our delegations and countries share an understanding that our relations should be built on the basis of mutual respect and equal rights. We are not going to conceal the fact that the positions of the two countries on a range of important issues and questions of principle still differ considerably. We are aware that these deadlines do not satisfy the Latvian side, as it has stated. On our part, we have again confirmed our firm determination and our sincere readiness to effect the troop pull-out in the shortest time possible. We have no intention of manipulating the issue of pulling troops out or using them as a lever of any kind. [end recording]

[Osipov] Janis Dinevics, state minister and head of the Latvian delegation, expressed a different opinion of the negotiations that have just taken place.

[Begin Dinevics recording] The Latvian side is continuing to stick to its view that the troops must be withdrawn before September 1993 from Latvia as a whole, and from the Latvian capital, Riga, by the end of 1992. [end recording]

[Osipov] I asked Sergey Zotov to explain why Russia is proposing that the troops be pulled out by 1999. He said the main reason was that the withdrawal of an enormous group of troops was under way at the moment from Germany and Poland.

[Begin Zotov recording] So Russia is physically and materially incapable at the moment of meeting unrealistic deadlines for the withdrawal of a large group of troops such as the Northwest group of troops, numbering as it does, more than 100,000, including 58,000 from Latvia. We believe that understanding and mutual trust should exist between our two countries, our two democratic states. Latvia should not create added difficulties for the Russian leadership. The future of democracy in Latvia, it seems to us, does not so much depend on the schedule for the troop withdrawal as on the fate of democracy in Russia itself. So we believe that one, must above all, approach these matters not just from a military-political point of view, but from a purely human one. [end recording]

[Osipov] The special envoy also cited technical data which make it evident that the troop withdrawal schedule proposed by the Latvian Republic is unrealistic. More than 1,000 trains would be required, while Latvia can only provide one train every three days. Janis Dinevics, head of the Latvian delegation, parried these arguments:

[Begin Dinevics recording] The Latvian side has wondered if it receives international aid and if in two years it manages to build the required amount of apartments, will Russia's troops leave Latvia then? We have not received an unequivocally positive answer. We were told this will also be connected with certain interests of Russia relating to national security. [end recording]

[Osipov] Still, both sides emphasized after the end of the news conference their sincere interest in deepening their cooperation and mutual understanding.

Ministry Denies Rise in Lithuanian Troop Levels

LD2905043392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1804 GMT 28 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaisky]

[Text] Moscow May 28—Tranfer of large Army units from Russia to Lithuania is out of question. There are only replacements of servicemen who are demobilised upon completing their military service. This is being done to ensure normal functioning of units of the Northwestern Group of Forces, a representative of the press centre of the Russian Defence Ministry told ITAR-TASS.

This statement was prompted by a report of some media about Lithuanian leaders' concern that large contigents of Russian troops are alledgedly being tranferred to Lithuania.

The spokesman for the press centre of the Russian Defence Ministry said that replacements are made to ensure that depots with arms and military equipment are guarded.

The withdrawal of the main groups of Russian Army units from the Baltic territory is planned to be carried out after the withdrawal of units from Germany and Poland is completed.

The deadline for the withdrawal will be determined during the negotiations between the state delegations of Russia and the Baltic countries.

Further on Troop Withdrawal From Baltic States

LD2905130892 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 29 May 92

[Passages contained within quotation marks are recorded in Russian fading into English translation]

[Text] [Announcer] An acute problem in Russia's relations with the newly emerged Baltic States is that former Soviet troops still remain there. Now they are under Russia's jurisdiction. Russia transferred more servicemen recently to the Baltic States, allegedly to reinforce frontier troops. This aroused concern in the Baltic States, the more so that some of the military carried air force, signals and navy tabs. Russia's defense minister, Army General Pavel Grachev, clarifies the situation:

[Grachev] "Russia indeed is calling up new draftees to the frontier troops. But frontier troops include not only soldiers who patrol the borderline with a dog and a machine gun. They also include anti-aircraft defenses, air and naval forces.

"As the Baltic States undertook to protect mainly ground frontiers the responsibility for the other components of frontier control rests with Russia's armed forces. It would be unwise to considerably weaken the frontier. We have taken a decision to continue calling up draftees until a final agreement on the state frontiers is reached."

[Announcer] And what about the troops' withdrawal from the Baltic States?

[Grachev] "The withdrawal is necessary, as it is necessary to settle this issue in a civilized way through negotiations between Russia and Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The optimal time to begin a pullout is late 1994. By that time the former Soviet troops will be completely withdrawn from Poland and Germany. Now

Russia's government has set up negotiating groups led by its Foreign Ministry officials to tackle these issues."

[Announcer] Is it possible to speed up the pullout?

[Grachev] "I have already said that I will not withdraw my officers and soldiers from the Baltic and other states to open fields. The withdrawal could be accelerated only if the Baltic States give us financial assistance or practical assistance in building houses and barracks."

EC's Jacques Delors Visits Moscow for Meetings

Arrives in Moscow

LD2905104992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1019 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS—Chairman of the Council of the European Communities Jacques Delors on Friday [29 May] arrived in Moscow on an official visit at the invitation of Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Replying to ITAR-TASS question about the aim of the visit, Delors said at Moscow Airport he intended to discuss general provisions of a new agreement between the European Communities and Moscow, which is expected to be more comprehensive than the 1989 agreement between the European Communities and the Soviet Union. He also hopes to discuss in Moscow the forthcoming meeting of the top Russian leadership with representatives of the G-7 countries.

Jacques Delors is due to meet the Russian president, First Deputy Premier in Charge of Economic Reforms Yegor Gaydar, Deputy Premier in Charge of Social Politics Aleksandr Shokhin, who is also the Russian labour and employment minister, and Russian State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis.

Delors is also expected to have a conversation with President of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Arkadiy Volskiy.

Meets with Shokhin

LD2905190892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1355 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow, 29 May—"We are striving to ensure that no interval occurs in Russia's cooperation with the European Community." This wish was expressed by Aleksandr Shokhin, deputy chairman of the Government of Russia on social policy issues, in a conversation with Jacques Delors, chairman of the European Community Commission, who arrived in Moscow on 29 May. According to Shokhin, this concerns the sphere of credit and technical assistance which the "Common Market" is lending to Russia.

Aleksandr Shokhin noted that the level of relations achieved by Moscow and the European Community may be raised. In particular, Russia's new agreement with the community, work on which has already begun, should not copy the two-year-old document elaborated with the USSR, but rather, should continue and develop the results achieved.

Meets With Burbulis

LD2905190992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1447 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow, 29 May—Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, will present specific projects for training cadres and guaranteeing nuclear safety in Russia at a meeting with leaders of the Group of Seven in Munich on 8 July. [INTERFAX In English at 1951 GMT on 29 May in a similar report adds: "The state secretary said that Russia intends to propose concrete projects of "purposeful investments" for separate enterprises and regions in the sphere of infrastructure, telecommunications, staff training, security of atomic power-stations."] This was reported to journalists by Gennadiy Burbulis, state secretary of the Russian Federation president, after his meeting with Jacques Delors, chairman of the European Community Commission, who arrived in Moscow on 29 May.

Gennadiy Burbulis emphasized that, during his conversation with Jacques Delors, he expressed his interest in seeing that the upcoming summit in Munich enables the G-7 to better understand the economic reforms that Russia has implemented.

Delors noted that the European Community is satisfied with the results of the Common Market's humanitarian aid to Russia. In particular, he stressed that the results of this winter's EC aid programs to the major cities of St. Petersburg and Moscow have been heartening. In his words, the experience acquired and the results achieved permit these programs to continue and to be broadened to encompass three more Russian towns—Nizhnyy Novgorod, Saratov, and Chelyabinsk.

Replying to a question from an ITAR-TASS correspondent, Ivan Silayev, the Russian representative to the EC who participated in the conversation, said that a new agreement between the Russian Federation and the European Community will be signed in autumn. It is needed to replace the agreement that was signed with the USSR two years ago.

Meets With Kozyrev

LD2905201492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1817 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Oleg Polovko]

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS—"We are prioritising relations with the European Community and the level of today's meetings proves it," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said on Friday [29 May], after his meeting with EC Commission President Jacques Delors.

Delors is in Moscow on an official visit at the invitation of Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Kozyrev informed Delors about the results of his recent visit to Portugal and Yugoslavia. They also discussed European security and bilateral relations between Russia and the European Community.

Dolors praised Russia's role in the European development, including in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and urged the Russian leadership to use its authority to settle the conflict in Yugoslavia.

Meets With Volskiy

LD2905212792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1817 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow, 29 May—The first day of a visit to Moscow by Jacques Delors, president of the EC Commission, ended with a conversation with Arkadiy Volskiy, president of the Russian union of industrialists and entrepreneurs. Delors arrived in the Russian capital on 29 May on the invitation of Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Arkadiy Volskiy acquainted the guest in detail with assessments by Russian business circles of the socio-economic situation that has taken shape in the country. In particular, industrialists are worried about the situation of enterprises in the military-industrial complex, which are experiencing the negative consequences of the recession. According to the president of the union, the military-industrial complex is interested in cooperation with EC countries in the field of conversion.

During the conversation, Volskiy and Delors agreed that the EC Commission will seriously consider the joint projects between the union and foreign companies on professional retraining of servicemen discharged from the armed forces.

Tomorrow the president of the EC Commission will meet with President Boris Yeltsin and Yegor Gaydar, first deputy chairman of the Russian Government.

Meets With Yeltsin

LD3005110192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1000 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Aleksandr Krolikov]

[Text] Moscow, 30 May—A meeting took place in the Kremlin on 30 May between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Jacques Delors, chairman of the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), who arrived in Moscow on Friday, 29 May. As the ITAR-TASS correspondent was told by Vyacheslav Kostikov, the president's press secretary, the dialogue was constructive and, undoubtedly, will serve the strengthening of ties between Russia and the CEC.

The interlocutors discussed the prospects for the forthcoming meeting in Munich with the leaders of the "Big Seven." Boris Yeltsin noted that it will, in particular, discuss the mechanism of the realization of the aid to Russia on the part of developed countries of the West. Out of the scheduled 24 billion dollars, he noted, the country has for the time being, not received a cent. That is why it is necessary to come to an agreement on the specific mechanism for making this aid available. Touching on relations with the European communities, the president stressed that in this area it it is necessary to pursue a more dynamic policy and to reach a new level of interrelations.

During the discussion of international problems, special attention was devoted to the situation of former Yugoslavia. Boris Yeltsin said that early 30 May, he had given his consent for Russia's representative at the UN to vote, together with other countries, for the introduction of sanctions against Serbia.

Boris Yeltsin noted that the Russian leadership has of late, changed its interrelations with the states of the former USSR, has started pursuing a more flexible policy, and does not intend to bring pressure to bear on them. He stressed that relations in the Commonwealth of Independent States are fairly stable, which was demonstrated by the latest meeting in Tashkent. There is a growing realization among the leaders of these states that within the framework of the CIS, it is necessary to create unified coordinating bodies.

Jacques Delors expressed confidence that the forthcoming meeting in Munich will give world public opinion the opportunity to see Russia as a great power. He invited Boris Yeltsin to visit the headquarters of the Commission of the European Communities in Brussels.

Holds News Conference on Talks

LD3005110692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1020 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow, 30 May—The state of cooperation between the EC and Russia, the economic situation in Russia, the prospects for the signing of an agreement between Moscow and the "Common Market", and the situation in Yugoslavia were the main subjects discussed by the Russian leadership and Jacques Delors, chairman of the Commission of the European Communities, who is here at the invitation of Boris Yeltsin.

Speaking at a news conference on 30 May, the chairman of the CEC has reported that in conversation with Yegor Gaydar, first deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Government, the Russian side raised the issue of the lifting of restrictions and of Russia joining COCOM (Coordinating Committee For Multilateral Export Controls) with the aim of overcoming its technological backwardness. Besides this, he noted, Yegor Gaydar expressed himself in favor of a five-year moratorium on Russia paying interest on its loans.

Regarding a future agreement between Russia and the European Communities, which is called for to replace the agreement signed in 1989 with the USSR, Jacques Delors has emphasized that the document should be political, economic and cultural in character. In particular, in his words, the agreement needs to make provision for biannual summit meetings, and the economic aspect of it should be directed toward Russia becoming part of the world economic system as soon as possible.

The CEC chairman has shown an understanding of Russia's stance in relation to events in Yugoslavia including the fact that Moscow gave Serbia a chance and then agreed to join UN sanctions. In the words of Jacques Delors, regardless of what the republics in this region choose to call themselves, the "Common Market" will offer them both food aid and aid to restore their economies. The CEC chairman called what is happening in Yugoslavia a tragedy.

Talking about his meeting with the Russian president, Jacques Delors reported that he had handed over an invitation to Boris Yeltsin to visit the Commission of the European Communities in Brussels. Such a visit is planned during the second half of July.

South African President Arrives for Talks

Official Comments on Ties

LD2705180592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1010 GMT 27 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Nikishov]

[Text] Moscow, 27 May—"Relations between Russia and the Republic of South Africa [RSA] are for the time being at the embryo stage, but it is hoped that the visit to Moscow early in June by RSA President Frederik de Klerk will serve as an incentive for developing them." This was stated today by Grigoriy Karasin, chief of the African countries directorate of the Russian Foreign Ministry in an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent.

The RSA president will visit Russia from 1 to 2 June at the invitation of Boris Yeltsin—three months after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Both sides are preparing a package of documents, which, as Grigoriy Karasin noted, "will flesh out the visit in a concrete manner." In particular, agreements on trade and economic cooperation and on air links are being prepared for signing.

Russia, according to the leading Foreign Ministry official, "is interested in the further development of relations with African countries." He especially noted Russia's striving to maintain contacts with all constructive participants in a political settlement in the RSA, and he stressed that the Russian leadership is hoping that African National Congress President Nelson Mandela will visit Moscow soon. Boris Yeltsin's invitation has been handed to him, and the timing of the visit is currently being discussed.

Speaking of sanctions against the RSA, the diplomat noted that "Russia has always observed them." Even though the situation is changing in the RSA, "we do not intend to break the United Nation's compulsory sanctions," the Russian Foreign Ministry official stressed.

Pro-Communist Groups Protest

OW2905220992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1951 GMT 29 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The opposition pro-communist organizations in Russia sharply criticize the forthcoming visit of Republic of South Africa's [RSA's] President Frederik de Klerk to Moscow scheduled for June 1-2.

The opposition parliamentary block "Russian Unity", the Russian Communist Labor Party, and the Socialist party of working people assessed this visit as premature and demanded it be postponed.

According to the leaders of the "Russian Unity" block Sergey Baburin, Ivan Rybkin and Nikolay Pavlov, Frederik de Klerk's arrival "definitely aggravates the prospects of the long-term economic and political cooperation of Russia with the post-apartheid South Africa and contradicts the international obligations of Russia, who supported the UN decision on maintaining the pressure on the RSA till the settlement there will become irreversible". They also mentioned the delay of visit to Russia of the RSA's prominent politician, leader of the African National Congress Nelson Mandela.

"Offering priorities to relations with the RSA's regime, which is counting its last days, at the expense of worsening relations with the future democratic government of the country contradicts the sane sense", the "Russian Unity" 's statement says. The parliamentary opposition's leaders put forward accusations in neglecting the "long-term interests of Russia for the benefit of the momentary aspirations of the present government".

In their joint statement the Russian communist Labor Party and the Socialist Party of the working people say that Frederik de Klerk's visit "actually demonstrates the support of only one party in political settlement, provides for loosening of the RSA's international isolation...."

The Chairman of the permanent presidium of the USSR People's Deputies' Congress Sazhi Umalatova (a group of the People's Deputies of the former USSR disagreed with the disbandment of the Union and forming of the CIS instead of it—"IF" [INTERFAX]) criticizes the Russian authorities for the curtailing relations with the leading force of democratic transformations in South Africa.

Ambassador on Goals of Visit

MB3105134192 Moscow Radio Moscow in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[Interview with Gerrit Olivier, South African ambassador to Russia, by unidentified Radio Moscow correspondent, at the South African Embassy in Moscow; date not given—recorded]

[Text] As we reported earlier, South African state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, will visit Russia on 1 and 2 June. He will visit Moscow and St. Petersburg. Our correspondent asked the South African ambassador in Moscow, Dr. Gerrit Olivier, to tell us more about the purpose of this visit.

[Begin Olivier recording] Thank you very much. It is really a pleasure to be able to speak to you in Afrikaans from my office in Moscow and I want to send my best wishes to all African listeners. I think that hearing Afrikaans from Moscow, especially under new political circumstances, is quite an experience. I have been asked about President de Klerk's visit to Moscow on 1 and 2 June.

I must say at the outset that it is an historical event. It is the first visit ever by a South African state president to Moscow. You will recall that, as a result of the past, as a result of apartheid, as a result of Communism, there was no official contact between these two countries. We have, as it were, dehumanized each other. We lived under the dark shadow of apartheid but, despite this, the Russian and South African people did not declare war on each other, if I can put it that way. Feelings of sympathy, friendliness, and admiration has always existed. During the Boer War, at the beginning of the century, the Russians sided strongly with the Afrikaners.

I have just emphasized the historical importance of this visit and I want to add here, in relative terms, that both South Africa and Russia have been isolated in the past. South Africa's isolation was external, while Russia's was internal. As far as South Africa is concerned, the external isolation had very bad consequences diplomatically. It also affected our trade and our international ties. After the rejection of apartheid, once South African politics began to follow a new course, the South African state president proposed the normalization of South Africa's international relations—in other words, to include those parts of the world from which we had been cut off, and here Russia, naturally, is of great importance. It is a state that covers one seventh of the earth's surface. It is a state comprising 150 million people. It is a state with enormous potential, especially if viewed over the long term.

Through this visit, the further normalization of South Africa's foreign ties will be dramatically demonstrated. President de Klerk will inform President Yeltsin about the political changes in South Africa, on developments at Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa], the progress made at Codesa, and about the future of the convention. He will also talk about the present situation in southern Africa, about prospects for total peace in the region. President de Klerk will probably also talk about the enormous economic needs of the subcontinent, especially now that the subcontinent is threatened by a severe drought.

I think President de Klerk's visit will serve as a stimulus to encourage trade, cultural, and sports contact between the two states.

Today, Russia and South Africa are experiencing the same growing pains during their transition from an old system to a new one. President de Klerk and President Yeltsin, in international terms, are big reformers and, as I see it, there will be great interest in the meeting between the two leaders because so much value is attached to the processes being steered by them, because so much depends on them in terms of peace, international relations and the successful completion of these processes with which they are busy at present. This type of contact is good for peace, for human rights, trade, and for all positive things to be gained from such talks. It bodes well for South Africa, for southern Africa, and for relations throughout the world.

For this reason we feel that the President de Klerk's visit to Moscow will be significant in both symbolic and substantive terms, now and in the future. Thank you very much and I wish you all the best. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Comments

LD0106084192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0745 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Johannesburg, 1 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—The visit to Moscow and St. Petersburg by Frederik de Klerk, president of the Republic of South Africa [RSA], which began 1 June, "has historic significance and symbolizes the beginning of new relations between South Africa and Russia," South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha said in an interview to ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Kulik. De Klerk will also visit Japan and Singapore.

"The visit is called upon to put up reliable bridges for the development of trade and cultural ties between both our countries," the minister stressed, who after de Klerk's departure for Russia is acting head of state. "The ideological differences which recently existed between Moscow and Pretoria have receded into the past and our peoples are opening their hearts and reaching out to each other. South Africans know and love Russian literature

and Russian art, and I hope that the forthcoming visit will serve to further their acquaintance with Russia and its heritage."

Arrives, Meets With Kozyrev

LD0106082692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0645 GMT 1 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Nikishov]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jun—"A new era in relations between Russia and the Republic of South Africa [RSA] has already started," RSA President Frederik de Klerk, who arrived in Russia on an official visit 1 June, stated at Sheremetyevo airport.

This is the first visit ever to Russia by a South African president. It is taking place three months after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who met the RSA president, also spoke of the great significance of the visit, calling it an important moment in the development of ties between the two countries.

A meeting between Frederik de Klerk and Russian President Boris Yeltsin is scheduled for 1 June.

Grachev on Military Withdrawal From Kurils

LD2905172792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1434 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Moscow, 29 May (ITAR-TASS)—The information and press department of Russia's Foreign Ministry on 29 May, issued a statement by Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, which reads as follows:

"In recent days, through the efforts of the mass media, my brief reply to a question which was asked after the end of my new conference about plans regarding our forces in the Kuril Islands has had unjustified reverberations. In Japan it has even reached the stage where questions have been raised in the Diet.

"I must say that our army and its command are acting in strict accordance with the political decisions adopted by the country's leadership. At present, with the participation of the Russian Defense Ministry, Russian leaders have begun to prepare steps which, as the logic of military life itself demands, will take the form of clear-cut directives on the withdrawal in the course of one or two years, all of Russia's servicemen from the southern Kuril Islands, except for border guards, as envisaged by Yeltsin's five-stage plan which is well-known in Japan. For the time being military, subunits in these islands are continuing to perform their service in a normal way. That was reflected in my answer at the news conference."

Kurils Issue May Involve International Court

OW3005041492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0338 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Moscow, May 29 KYODO—Russia could let the International Court of Justice judge whether four Russian-held islands inherently belong to Japan if the two countries do not reach an agreement on the matter, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sergey Yastrzhembskiy said in a radio program Friday [29 May].

It is the first time that a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official referred to the International Court of Justice as a forum for resolving the dispute over the four islands just off Japan's northernmost major island of Hokkaido. Russia has held the islands—the Habomais, Shikotan, Kunashiri and Etorofu—since the defunct Soviet Red Army captured them in the closing days of World War II.

Despite the remark by the Yastrzhembsky, the Foreign Ministry information chief, Russian President Boris Yeltsin has said it was unlikely the islands would be returned to Japan soon because Russian conservatives say the islands are inherently Russian. Yeltsin said a solution to the territorial issue is impossible in 1993 or 1994.

Yeltsin To Visit Canada for Talks in Jun

LD3005173492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1446 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valentin Vasilets]

[Text] Ottawa, 30 May—The office of Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney reported on the evening of 29 May, that Russian President Boris Yeltsin is to pay an official visit to Canada from 18-20 June.

The visit will take place at the invitation of Canadian Governor-General Ramon Hnatyshyn. In addition to Ottawa, Yeltsin is also to visit Montreal.

DPRK Student Awaits Political Asylum

PM2905185592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 May 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Gennadiy Charodeyev report: "Kim Myong-se Awaits Political Asylum in Russia"]

[Text] Kim Myong-se, a North Korean postgraduate physics student at Moscow State University who recently requested that the Russian president grant him political asylum, is still in hiding at a private Moscow apartment.

Kim said in a telephone interview with IZVESTIYA that he will stay home in Ozernaya while the threat to his life from the North Korean intelligence services persists.

Meanwhile, Pyongyang's top leadership circulated a press statement via KCNA which calls Kim Myong-se a "criminal who has committed serious criminal and economic crimes" not only in the DPRK but also in relation

to North Korean citizens in Russia. This document, like the statements previously made by the DPRK Embassy in Moscow, does not reveal the nature of the crimes. "A criminal and political offender cannot be a political emigrant from the viewpoint of either international law or the Declaration of Human Rights," Pyongyang believes.

The Russian Foreign Ministry holds a different opinion. So far, its spokesman stated to us, the Koreans have not given us possession of the documents confirming the essence of the accusations made against Kim Myong-se. Therefore he should be regarded as a political refugee.

It has been learned from well-informed sources in the Foreign Ministry and government that the case is proceeding toward an outcome whereby all the competent Russian authorities dealing with the Korean postgraduate student's case, based on humanitarian and human rights considerations, will support the request of DPRK citizen Kim Myong-se to be granted political asylum.

Federation Affairs

Yeltsin Talks With Oil, Gas Industry Leaders

LD3005164492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1131 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 30 May—Before a decision is made to liberalize fuel prices it is essential to predict all the consequences from an economic, political, and social viewpoint. This was stated today by Russian President Boris Yeltsin. Speaking at a gathering in the Kremlin with leaders of the oil and gas complex, he acknowledged the expediency of the proposed draft decision on preparing for the liberalization of fuel prices.

Having noted that this document confirms the government's resoluteness to embark on the liberalization of prices, the president stressed that "the main thing at present is to make a full forecast as to how much sausages will cost and what salaries will be like in order to make final decisions with open eyes." According to Yeltsin, this approach is not caused "by the president's stubbornness," but by the fact that "many families live in poverty." An ill thought out decision can lead to grave social and political consequences. Specialists have been instructed to prepare a relevant forecast in a month.

According to the Russian president's assessment, during today's meeting it was possible to resolve approximately 60 percent of the issues, among them single management of the oil and gas complex, immediate measures to develop new deposits, and attracting foreign credits to the gas industry.

As for the problem of cash availability, Yeltsin confirmed again that it will be resolved in June of this year. However, taking into consideration the acuteness of this problem at present, it was decided to find 10-15 billion rubles to pay salaries to the workers in the industry.

In conclusion, the Russian president announced that he will address oil industry workers with an appeal.

'Political Priority' Noted

OW3005140092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 30 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Our correspondents Vyacheslav Terekhov and Boris Grishchenko report from the Kremlin that Yeltsin has chaired a conference today dealing with a set of documents aimed at drastically improving the performance of the Russian oil and gas complex.

Yeltsin expressed serious concern over the unprecedented fall in oil and gas production and dwelt in this connection on the liberalization of fuel prices.

He described the issue as a "political priority" and insisted that it be analyzed particularly carefully. "Although the International Monetary Fund demands immediate introduction of free prices for fuel, we cannot do this at the moment," he said, "for we may lose control of the political situation if we do." In his opinion, immediate and complete liberalization of fuel prices would cause such enormous increases in prices for all goods that people would be losing their patience.

"Today people still support the reforms and the President, but, if get beyond the critical point, we'll set off a general disaster. This would a fatal step to take." He decided to set up an expert group which would within a month analyze all possible consequence of the gradual liberalization of fuel prices.

The conference discussed a set of previously prepared proposals, accepting about 60 percent of them, including those for providing sufficient amounts of cash to enterprises (wage arrears are to be partly be paid in June) and for granting a total credit of some 120 bn [billion] rubles to the priority sectors of the industry.

There were some doubts expressed at the conference as to whether the Central Bank of Russia would be willing to provide funds for these extraordinary measures, to which Yeltsin replied that the bank was controlled by him. "There is no institution in the country which is not controlled by the President," he said.

The conference also discussed measures to improve the administration of the complex and some urgent steps to develop some promising new oil and gas fields, and encourage foreign business to credit the industry. In particular, a credit of $8.7 bn will be necessary to modernize the gas industry. Changes will be made in the taxation system for enterprises in the oil and gas complex in order to stimulate production. Yeltsin accepted the conference participants' suggestion that he address

the workers of the oil and gas industry explaining to them the nature of the measures to be taken.

In an interview given to our correspondents immediately after the conference was over, Economics Minister Andrey Nechayev said that, even if the measures stipulated in the documents issued by the meeting failed to put the industry in good condition, they would at least quickly check the fall in oil and gas production. He described them as quite realistic.

Fuel Minister Removed

OW3005135792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 30 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Yeltsin signed a decree today dismissing Viktor Lopukhin from his post of deputy chairman of the government for the fuel and energy complex and another decree appointing Viktor Chernomyrdin to the same post. Both decrees were signed in the presence and to the satisfaction of the managers of major enterprises in Russia's oil and gas complex who had taken part in a recent conference on ways to raise the efficiency of this key industry.

The conference worked out a set of urgent measures to improve the performance of the oil and gas complex which had seriously deteriorated in the past few years, including, above all, its centralized administration, state monopoly on gas supplies, development of new oil and gas fields, encouragement of foreign investment in the complex, and changes in the wages and price policy in it.

Speaking about the liberalization of oil and gas prices, Yeltsin insisted that all possible consequences of the measure should be analyzed. "We must be careful not to get to a point where we'll lose control of the political situation," he said.

Summing up the results of the conference, First Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar said its importance lay in the fact that it primarily concentrated on development prospects for the industry, providing better opportunities for foreign capital investment, crediting, modernization, and economical use of oil products. He also stressed that the conference had worked out a strategy for the development of the gas industry, which was extremely important at this moment. The greatest difficulty facing the conference was the large number of problems needing immediate solution.

Yeltsin Appoints Chair of Price Committee

OW2905210292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1857 GMT 29 May 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has appointed Lira Rozenova Chairman of the Price Committee at the Ministry of Economics of Russian Federation. This implies that Ms Rozenova automatically becomes Deputy Minister of Economics.

The President also signed the Government Resolution on setting up the Committee for the Affairs of Service Members and Their Families. This Committee replaces the analogues committee which was earlier subordinate to the Head of State. Appointed Chairman of the Government Committee is Anatoliy Alekseyev who was assigned to present for approval his draft Regulations of the new agency within two weeks.

Defense Minister Grachev Interviewed on Policy

PM2905122592 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 29 May 92 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Russian Defense Minister Army General Pavel Grachev by correspondent Sergey Ovsiyenko; place and date not given: "The Army: Overcoming Arrhythmia"]

[Text] [Ovsiyenko] Pavel Sergeyevich, did your appointment to the post of minister take place on a competitive basis, as people say nowadays?

[Grachev] There was talk of potential candidates for the post in various circles—government, Supreme Soviet, the press. All the pros and cons were weighed up. In view of the situation in the Army, the need to reform it, and the complex questions of fixing up the troops who are being brought back to Russia, the government evidently agreed that he would be a man with a grasp of the situation in the Army....

As for Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, I personally saw him as a potential candidate for the post of minister. But the thing is that the heads of the 11 Commonwealth states decided to appoint him commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces and no one was going to release him from that post.

Dmitriy Antonovich Volkogonov was also seen as a candidate. In conversation with me—as I understand it—he did not see that it was possible for him to head the Defense Ministry, referring to his advancing years. Moreover, Dmitriy Volkogonov is busy in his academic and public activities.

There was discussioin in the press of other candidates, from the civilian sphere. I believe that, in this difficult time for the Armed Forces, a "civilian" defense minister would not be able to handle the tasks that went with the job. He would not have enough knowledge of the military. Do not think that I am basically opposed to such an appointment. It is possible, but at some other time, when the strong army organism that our Russia so badly needs has been created.

[Ovsiyenko] How will you choose your team?

[Grachev] The Defense Ministry and General Staff structures have not been confirmed yet. Incidentally, there was a discussion of this at the first session of the Security Council, which is where confirmation is to occur.

Once the ministry and general staff structures are confirmed, the State Certification Board headed by Yuriy Skokov will examine the candidates for particular posts. That is the deputy ministers and chiefs of the main directorates.

I am only entitled to propose two or three candidates for each post, it is then the commission's job to select...You will agree this is sensible and entirely democratic.

[Ovsiyenko] The organizational development of the Russian Armed Forces is hampered by the fact that a whole range of political problems remains unresolved. In your view, which need to be tackled first?

[Grachev] The Commonwealth countries' heads of state or government must immediately reach agreement on the status of the temporary presence on their territory of forces under the control of the Russian Defense Ministry.

Accords of this kind at the highest political level would guarantee the inviolability and security of Russian forces stationed in trouble spots. Attacks on servicemen and on military camps, for the purpose of seizing weapons and military hardware and taking hostages, have become almost a daily occurrence in such places....

What worries me a great deal at the moment is the position of the 14th Army, which the leaders of Moldova are accusing of all manner of sins. In fact, to be frank, President Snegur is trying to blame the army for his own political mistakes. Having failed to solve the Dniester Region problems by political means, he has resorted to military force. To protect themselves, the military formations of the Left Bank are seizing 14th Army weapons and military hardware. This enables Mr. Snegur to say that Russian forces are acting against Moldova.

The same situation exists in the Transcaucasus.

Accords are needed on a civilized, stage-by-stage withdrawal of Russian forces from the Baltic area. The Baltic republics must adopt a realistic attitude and stop demanding the withdrawal of all forces from their territory this year. Their insistence threatens to generate growing social tension for us in the army sphere. And it is high enough already.

These are the main political problems whose solution would provide normal conditions for the organizational development of the Russian Armed Forces.

[Ovsiyenko] How do you stand on the question of the Black Sea Fleet?

[Grachev] The Ukrainian leadership regards the Black Sea Fleet as a Ukrainian fleet. Our position is that the fleet is not Ukrainian, not Russian, and does not belong to any other state. It is the fleet of the Commonwealth as a whole, so it should be commanded by the Joint Armed Forces commander in chief.

Incidentally, Ukraine's stance is confirmed by a recent telegram from Defense Minister Morozov to Marshal Shaposhnikov about sending new conscripts from Russia to join the fleet's ships. It makes it perfectly clear that only Ukrainians should serve in the Black Sea Fleet.

[Ovsiyenko] What was the reason for your recent trip to Armenia?

[Grachev] As well as economic questions, what was tackled there was questions of the status of our forces' temporary presence in the republic and their gradual withdrawal to Russia. The point is that the 7th and 4th Armies, stationed in the Transcaucasus, are made up entirely of volunteers, and there is a shortage of them at the moment. A situation could arise in six months' or a year's time whereby officers of the Russian Armed Forces will be commanding foreign states' national armies, which, you will agree, is illogical.

At the meeting with the Armenian leaders there was a discussion of the timeframe for the reduction of the 7th Army and the procedure for transferring part of the armaments and military hardware to the Armenian side.

[Ovsiyenko] We now know what the numerical strength of the Russian Armed Forces will be, and their composition. But the Russian defensive concept is unclear at the moment. What should it be based on, in your opinion?

[Grachev] The basis of it is the Russian president's recent statement that we have no enemies. That is enough for me, a military leader, to be able to prepare a defensive concept that corresponds to current policy.

Since there is no enemy there is no need to create strike groupings in a particular sector. In the past, you will recall, it was in the western sector. The concept is based on defense of the length of the perimeter. Not just positional, but mobile. The new concept also calls for a new category of Armed Forces—a rapid reaction force.

[[Ovsiyenko] Based on airborne troops?

[Grachev] Not exclusively. Since I am in the airborne forces you think it will be based exclusively on them, do you?

This category of forces will also include some motorized rifle formations, equipped with light armaments, who can be transported by military transport aircraft or MI-26 helicopters, marines, military transport aircraft, and logistics forces.

If need be this mobile grouping can be sent to any sector where defenses are under threat.

Under the new concept, ground forces' units located on the defense perimeter will be significantly reduced, and

several fully manned divisions will remain in each military district. So a strategic reserve will be established in case of hostilities.

[Ovsiyenko] Have the stages of the organizational development of the Armed Forces been established?

[Grachev] Allow me just to indicate them. The end of 1992 will see the first stage. The task will be to create the Russian Defense Ministry and the General Staff. In 1993-1995 there will be the process of reduction of the Army and reorganization of military districts, which I mentioned before. In the first and second stages we plan to bring the Army's numerical strength down to 2.1 million, and to 1.5 million by 2000.

The third stage is 1995-2000. In this stage the complete structure of the Russian Armed Forces will be established in the main.

[Ovsiyenko] Will the principle behind manpower acquisition for units and formations remain the same?

[Grachev] In the second stage we will steer a course toward the complete professionalization of the Army, but for the time being it will be a mixture of conscripts and contracts.

I would point out that the stage-by-stage organizational development of the Armed Forces in no way means their wholesale reduction, as has happened in the past. I agree that it is a painful process, but the ministry will do its utmost to ensure that there are no social upheavals for officers and warrant officers.

Grachev Attends Conference on Military Doctrine

LD3005203892 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] A scientific conference on the theme—The Military Doctrine and the Creation of Russian Armed Forces—ended at the Academy of the General Staff today. Correspondent Tatyana Chemodanova interviewed Army General Pavel Sergeyevich Grachev, minister of defense of Russia.

[Begin recording] [Chemodanova] Pavel Sergeyevich, one of the first actions of the Ministry of Defense of Russia was to hold a scientific conference. What do you think its results are and what are its practical steps?

[Grachev] I think that at this conference we assembled practically the whole sphere of military science and civilian military experts dealing with these issues. I have to say that over four days a great many modern ideas were expressed which we will follow up, but there were also many old ideas. I think that the conference was successful and useful and that it has furnished material for the practical elaboration of all documents that are necessary for setting up the armed forces. [end recording]

Oultines Reforms

LD3005145892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1435 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Moscow May 30 TASS—Participants in the four-day conference "Military Security of Russia" that ended in Moscow on Saturday [30 May] discussed Russia's future military doctrine and armed forces.

The conference was attended by the Russian and CIS top military, chiefs of the general staffs of the CIS states and representatives of the military-industrial complex.

Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev said a draft new military doctrine will be submitted to Russian President Boris Yeltsin by July 1, 1992 and a concept of Russian Army by September 1.

The reformation of the Russian Army is expected to be completed within six to eight years. The reform will consist of three stages. The first stage includes the creation of the Russian Defence Ministry. During the second stage, which will last two to three years, all Russian troops will be pulled out from former socialist countries. The Russian Armed Forces will consist of about 2.1 million troops by 1995. The final stage envisages the withdrawal of Russian troops from former Soviet republics and further reduction of the armed forces to 1.5 million troops.

During the transitional period, the strategic nuclear forces will remain under control of the CIS Joint Armed Forces command, Grachev said.

Grachev emphasised that the Russian Armed Forces will be based on "mobile defense along the perimeter". Such concept provides for creating "rapid deployment forces", comprising air-borne and some motorized rifle units, and marines.

Cites Personnel Needs

OW3005135992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1342 GMT 30 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The reformation of Russian armed forces will pass through three stages and will take 6-8 years, the Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev said Saturday [30 May] at a scientific conference at the Academy of General Headquarters in Moscow.

Grachev said the first level will be implemented this year. The defense ministry of the Russian Federation will be created, a military doctrine drawn up and a plan for the structure of the Armed Forces of Russia developed, and a legal base established for them.

The second stage of reforms will extend over a 2-3 year period and will include the withdrawal of forces from

foreign nations and the formation of military groupings in Russia. The armed forces will number nearly 2.5 million troops.

In the third and final stage of reform the withdrawal of forces from foreign nations will be completed and the reformation of the army will be completed. The size of the army will be reduced to 1.5 million troops in this stage.

Grachev said at the impending session of the Security Council of the Russian Federation Yeltsin will confirm the structure of the defense ministry and the general headquarters of the republic. Documents which have already been prepared state that the defense minister will have two deputies. One will head the general headquarters, will be responsible for the planning and management of the forces, as well as for the mobilization and intelligence operations.

The other deputy minister will direct the ministries activities in conversion, international cooperation, armament, and technical development.

The positions of three deputies of the defense minister are envisaged, which would cover personnel and social security matters of the servicemen, the military budget, finances and strategic research. Grachev also said that the military plan for the republic should be completely developed by September 1, when the document must be on Yeltsin's desk, and a completed draft of the military doctrine must be sent to the interdepartmental committee who will present it to the head of the Russian government by July 14.

In an interview with "IF" [INTERFAX] the Defense Minister said that he supports establishing a professional army in Russia. He said the Navy has already moved to a contract system, as have the air-landing forces; the contract system will eventually be established throughout the armed forces.

Grachev also told journalists that according to the Ministry's information Romania is sending armored personnel carriers and various types of weapons to Moldova. In addition, Romanian experts are teaching Moldovans. The Minister said this violates international laws forbidding the shipment of weapons to military conflict zones. Grachev stressed that "the escalation of the conflict in the Dniester region into an international military conflict is not possible".

Deputy Defense Minister on Long-Term Security

LD0106004892 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1840 GMT 31 May 92

[Interview with First Deputy Defense Minister Afanasyevich Kokoshin by "commentator" A. Peslyak; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Peslyak] [Passage omitted] What areas do you deal with, specifically, at the ministry?

[Kokoshin] First and foremost, I have to deal with issues of military technical policy—arms purchasing and research and development planning. This is closely connected, of course, with the future of our Armed Forces in general. Such problems cannot be tackled in isolation from the structure of the composition of Russia's Armed Forces, and these, in their turn, have to be tied up with the problem of the military doctrine. [passage omitted]

[Peslyak] The character of possible conflict is changing. This would no longer be a conventional war, even less a nuclear one, but protracted action by mobile formations and groups. Hence, while cutting the budget, Russia needs a different organization of the armed forces.

[Kokoshin] I think that today the Armed Forces are first and foremost, of course, a deterrent force against war. They are an element of the state's might, a very important element of the state's might, and at the same time they should be a very flexible and very effective instrument in political hands. They should be like the surgeon's scalpel, compared to the mallet or sledgehammer of the past.

[Peslyak] How do you see the relationship between military policy, the military economy and military organization?

[Kokoshin] Our economy is in a very difficult situation. It exerts a very direct influence on the military-political sphere and on structuring of the Armed Forces. For that reason we have to make very difficult decisions every day in this sphere. At the moment it is important to determine what is really best in what we have in the Armed Forces and the military industry, what we should spend our meager resources on, to do something for the future.

[Peslyak] To what extent is the military-industrial complex today capable of any kind of constructive solutions?

[Kokoshin] I would say that the defense complex is perhaps our main resource in order to occupy a worthy place in the world economy. This resource must be used very assiduously, very earnestly, in a sensible way, otherwise we could become part of the world economy as only a third-rate power. But, in fact, our starting position is much better. We have to break into the world market, and win our place in the sun.

[Peslyak] [Passage omitted] Should we view conversion narrowly? Should everything immediately go over to civilian production?

[Kokoshin] Of course, we have every right, and a need, to sell arms, since all developed states do this, including states with, so to speak, older democratic traditions than we have. But at the same time, we should not pin too much hope on this. To begin with, the arms market is not as capacious as many think. Second, our main task is still the same: to create a new industrial base overall for the country. We have to have a clearly expressed national industrial policy. Here the accent has to be on civilian technology, or dual-purpose technology. If we are talking about military enterprises, we have not reached the level

of relations with the West to be able to allow foreign capital investment in them. Foreign capital investment could at the same time be permitted on a large scale in enterprises that are undergoing conversion, in the enterprises that are to make civilian products. It is often very difficult for us to go it alone into the world markets. We need partners. But partnerships have to be such that we can, of course, preserve a worthy place.

[Peslyak] [Passage omitted] What is your attitude to involving civilian experts, including politologists, sociologists and psychologists, in the work, not necessarily of the apparatus of the Defense Ministry, but in the elaboration of serious decisions?

[Kokoshin] My attitude is a positive one, especially concerning the drafting of the military budget. But this has to be a serious, primarily analytical involvement. There have been many more such politologists and economists in recent years. There are many real professionals in the Defense Ministry and the General Staff, people who know their stuff. The problem of civilian control of the Armed Forces has to be taken more broadly. This means a real budget, control over appointments, and regular glasnost, so the civilian leadership of the military knows what is going on in the depths of the Armed Forces. This is very useful for the Armed Forces themselves. It will help us get rid of many ills more quickly that we inherited from the Army, from which we are now forming the Russian Army. [passage omitted]

We have to establish security relations between Russia and, for example, Byelarus, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, the states of Central Asia. We need a completely new and fresh look at problems of long-term security, together with the Baltic states, mutual security in this region.

As for NATO, and the United States, very big changes for the better have taken place here, of course. There are areas in which we really could cooperate very usefully—the missile attack warning system and the space monitoring system. This is a virgin field of work. Our systems, as you know, complement each other.

[Peslayk] Us and the West?

[Kokoshin] Yes, us and the United States. Two of the world's countries have such systems—the United States and, let's say, Russia and CIS. Improving the reliability of these systems and exchanging information in real time would drastically enhance their capabilities. It would save both of us a great deal money. [passage omitted]

Chief Military Investigator on Arms Sales

LD2905171992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1614 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaysky]

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS—One cannot speak of organized sales of arms belonging to the Western Group of Forces. These are single facts, acting head of the main Military Procurator's Office Investigation Department Anatoliy Korotkov told ITAR-TASS today.

He said a report of the German ADN News Agency on an outburst of sales of arms and ammunition belonging to the Western Group of Forces in Thuringia does not correspond to the reality.

Certainly, there are cases of arms stealing in the group, admitted the military investigator. For instance, 26 criminal cases of the sort were investigated by the Military Procurator's Office last year. Nineteen of them were passed over to court and 50 servicemen were convicted on this charge last year.

However, only three out of these cases include sales of a small arm, an automatic rifle and a grenade to foreigners.

A total of 25 arms units were in search in the Western Group of Forces, including two machine-guns, eight automatic rifles, one rifle and 14 small arms, as well as 147 grenades and 6,209 cartridges. Twenty two arms units and practically all ammunition have been found and returned to the troops.

In addition, one must take into account cases of sales of Soviet-made arms from the former East German Army at the market, he said.

This year only two cases are under investigation in the Western Group of Forces. Besides, the stealing of arms with selfish ends is usually preceded by servicemen contacts with Germans. The arms are usually "ordered" to soldiers, who are encouraged to commit the crime by hard currency offers.

For instance, in Wunstorf a certain Dutch citizen got acquainted with two soldiers at a check point and dropped a hint he will buy a small arm at 500 DM [German Mark]. The soldiers stole six small arms, managed to sell one, but were identified in two days and had to return the hidden arms.

Yeltsin Aide Cited on Conversion Program

PM2905114192 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 22 May 92 p 3

[Pavel Shinkarenko report under "Defense Complex" rubric: "Version of Conversion"]

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin met last week in the Kremlin with representatives of the defense complex. One idea was to be heard in all the speeches by the ministers and the military enterprise leaders, and indeed in the words of the president himself: In the course of the forthcoming reorganization of the army and the conversion of military production, it is necessary to preserve everything which constitutes the pride of the Russian state.

There are officially about 4 million people working in the Russian military-industrial complex—one in 20 of the able-bodied citizenry. But this figure does not reflect the essence of the matter. Because it is difficult to account

for the share of "defense" work undertaken by those employed in mixed enterprises. Those who sew children's clothing and soldiers' trench coats, those who turn out trucks for kolkhozes and the army, and those who cast steel and roll armor plate. Specialists consider that no less than 12 million people from the civilian sector give their services to the military sector directly. And if you are to include the members of their families as well, it emerges that: Not less than 30-37 million people, every fifth Russian, "is fed" at the expense of military orders.

It was Mikhail Maley who quoted me these figures. In the past he has been leader of a number of defense enterprises, subsequently deputy head of the Russian Government, and now Yeltsin's adviser on conversion issues.

"Mikhail Gorbachev, when he was USSR president, often repeated: As a result of the military-industrial complex's conversion the majority of the country's economic problems will be resolved," Mikhail Dmitriyevich says. "But this is a great delusion. Conversion always was a loss-making operation. Approximately 15 years and no less than $150 billion will be required to carry out conversion in our country, where all the economy's sectors are one way or another connected with work on the 'shield' or the missile 'umbrella.' The figure is similar in rubles inasmuch as in this sector the ruble is practically equivalent to the dollar...."

The Russian president's adviser emphasizes that the situation is also complicated by the fact that for many types of arms and military hardware the internal prices here compared to world ones have been lowered by a factor of 100, or even 1,000. And this means that the military-industrial complex's effectiveness has also been reduced to the same degree. But if the money which can be earned on the world market through selling this output is given back to the sector, then things can really be put right.

The statistics tell us that the former USSR in the year 1990 sold about $14 billion worth of military hardware and arms abroad. Of course, the bulk of these arms was disposed of on credit, to equip the Warsaw Pact countries' armies or to support ideologically close regimes. But all this was nevertheless a stable market which we shared with no one.

Of course, it was not only Russian plants which worked for it. A part of the output came from enterprises in Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Byelarus, and other CIS republics. But even if Russia succeeded in making just $5 billion annually, this would be a great help.

Is this possible?

"But why on earth not?" Mikhail Dmitriyevich asks. "More than 40 percent of output emerging from the shops of Russia's military-industrial complex is up with the world's best models. And we can trade these weapons abroad without infringing international conventions..."

Our interlocutor adduces the facts. Today Russia can provide more than 44 percent of the reactor-grade uranium produced in the world. What is more its quality is such that it has become the world standard. But here is the problem: A depressed quota for our delivery of this material to the world market—no more than 7 percent—has been retained from the time of ideological confrontation. If the quota were to be increased to at least 25 percent (and such opportunities do exist), the Russian nuclear industry would not only be able to survive quite comfortably by itself, and to complete its social programs, but it would also put $800 million into the treasury every year.

In the same circumstances and with the lifting of curbs established by Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls], the United States, and several other countries, Russia's missile complex would also be able to compete easily on foreign markets, giving the state $300-400 million.

"The restructuring of the military-industrial complex cannot be carried out in isolation from the arms program," Mikhail Maley believes. "In order to carry out normal conversion it is necessary for there to be a normal military doctrine. And it is good that the government has promised to announce it in the near future."

What results will this have? The fact that the military-industrial complex's leaders will know in precise terms the army's size and function. That the weapons and military hardware requirement will be determined precisely. It will also be possible to plan the progress of conversion in the defense enterprises, and to determine a timetable for their transfer to producing civilian output, and the volumes of possible deliveries abroad.

But it is already clear today: There is no sense in building new plants. It is necessary to switch the existing military enterprises to the so-called reverse technology. This primarily concerns the nuclear complex in which nuclear warheads were produced. Only they can now carry out the reverse process—of disassembling the weapons and reclaiming the conventional explosives and isotope materials and then setting about reprocessing the weapons-grade plutonium.

On President Yeltsin's instructions Russian scientists are devising general norms and a methodology for carrying out conversion. Three levels have been taken as a basis—enterprises, rayons, and republics within the Russian Federation. The artillery plant in the Vladimir Oblast settlement of Balakirevo has become a model for the lowest level. The middle level is being worked out on the example of Sergiyevo-Posadskiy Rayon in the Moscow area with a population of 270,000 inhabitants. And the model at the highest level is the Urdmurt Republic, whose economy was 85 percent given over to the military-industrial complex. The methods discovered at each of these stages will be recommended for use in other parts of Russia, and maybe in the CIS as a whole.

Practically all defense enterprises are subject to restructuring along peaceful lines. It is understandable that the Russian treasury cannot afford this outlay. The 40 billion rubles which parliament appropriated for conversion in 1992 has already been trashed by the current inflation. But where can the remaining capital be obtained? There is an answer. From private—including foreign—capital.

"Experience throughout the world shows," Mikhail Maley says, "that private capital is widely used in the defense complex. And its benefits are often much greater than those derived from state structures."

Mikhail Dmitriyevich is sure that privatization will take off in the military-industrial complex as well. There are already examples of this. For example the American firm Keys [as transliterated] offered its services to restructure the aforementioned artillery plant in Balakirevo. Medium-grade tractors will be manufactured there. There are also other offers. But for the moment there are few specific agreements: The instability of the political situation in Russia and the imperfection of our legislation are frightening off our partners.

But conversion has nevertheless started. President Boris Yeltsin assured the defense sector workers that Russia's military doctrine will have been formulated by the end of May. This means that clarity will appear for the military-industrial complex's workers as well.

Gaydar Examines Cash Flow, Inflation Problems

LD3105215592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 31 May 92

[Interview with Yegor Timurovich Gaydar, first deputy prime minister of the Russian Federation, by Yevgeniy Kiselev; date not given; from the "Itogi" newscast—recorded]

[Text] [Kiselev] Yegor Timurovich, first allow me to satisfy my own curiosity as a layman: Have you ever had your own salary delayed?

[Gaydar] No, this has not happened yet.

[Kiselev] In what denominations were banknotes paid to you last time?

[Gaydar] To tell you the truth, I usually give the envelope with my salary directly to my wife. Last time I did not look at what sort of banknotes were in it. I think that there were mostly 200 and 1,000 ruble notes.

[Kiselev] The new ones?

[Gaydar] Yes, the new ones as well.

[Kiselev] On to a more serious topic: When and how did the problem of cash flow shortages emerge? When did the problem raise its ugly head? Did you envisage such a situation when you started at the end of last year?

[Gaydar] The easiest and best thing in such a situation is always to look at the documents. We realize that with a sharp rise in prices and wages, demand for ready cash also rises sharply. On 23 December 1991 the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet discussed the situation regarding the cash circulation and various proposals. We can see the essence of these proposals from the notes I have here. If we do not print high denomination banknotes the country might find itself without ready cash. Therefore we should move to high denomination banknotes without delay. Here are a few excerpts from the discussion and the remarks made by the chairman.

[Kiselev] Excuse me, what chairman?

[Gaydar] Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov.

[Gaydar, reading from a sheaf of papers] Excuse me, but who will allow you to change to a different system of cash circulation? Do you know what it will mean if we are to change to 1,000 or 10,000 ruble notes? The move to any higher denomination signals an inflationary process, and 10,000 ruble notes signal hyperinflation. Today there are only two powers in the Russian Federation—the president and the parliament, and no others. All other powers are only there to execute the will of the Supreme Soviet and the president and have no right to issue instructions on this matter. You should remember that no one has a right to introduce a different banknote in the Russian state without getting approval from here, but here you are already planning 20,000 and 50,000 ruble notes.

Naturally, trying to beat inflation by attempting to curb ready cash circulation simply means prompting the ready cash crisis and nothing else. As a result we have found ourselves in a very serious situation. When we were eventually given the opportunity to work on the banknotes of higher denomination, the situation had already become serious simply because of the time factor. Instead of beginning to overcome the delays in payments of the wages from February, there were greater delays.

[Kiselev] So time was lost.

[Gaydar] Time was lost. Now the situation is perhaps the most serious and most explosive. What are we doing? We are trying to solve at least the technical problems to some extent. The main direction for dealing with this problem is to widen our technical capacities. I will give you more exact figures.

We have found additional resources. We anticipate that in June we will manage to double the emission of 1,000 ruble notes and to additionally issue about 40 million 500-ruble notes. Overall we are hoping in June to reach 142 billion in cash emission, which is an increase of about 2.5 times as much compared with emissions in May.

[Kiselev] Is it possible that notes of a higher denomination will appear in circulation?

[Gaydar] Yes. We are currently working very hard on a 5,000-ruble note. It will have a trial run in July. I hope it will go into circulation in July and that mass production

will begin in August. From August we will reach a monthly average production of about 270 to 280 billion rubles in cash a month. That is an increase of five times compared with the May level. By our calculations, if there are no unforeseen complications, then from July the situation regarding ready cash should start to stabilize.

[Kiselev] What are those people who have not been paid their wages supposed to do? How are their losses going to be compensated?

[Gaydar] That is a very difficult problem, because in a certain sense it is impossible to compensate them fully. We have given instructions to the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Transport to resume acceptance of noncash payments for tickets. This is a very serious problem at present, because people have to go on vacation. As a result of the extraordinary situation that has emerged regarding cash circulation, we have made a decision that wages that are unpaid and kept on the books at enterprises due to a lack of cash will be indexed for manual and office workers, on the basis of 80 percent of the annual interest from the republican budget.

[Kiselev] So a person who has not received his wages will receive it a bit later, plus 80 percent annual interest?

[Gaydar] It will be on the basis of 80 percent of annual interest and depending on the period for which it was unpaid. That is the decision we made, at least for wages in May and June when the situation is very difficult. [Kiselev] What was said in the report about noncash forms of transactions, credit cards, checks, and so on? Will that catch on here?

[Gaydar] Yes, it will. Unfortunately, it is very difficult to introduce this by force over a few months. There are regions where settlement checks are already being used actively. The point is that this system will be able to function effectively and be accepted throughout the country at some time. [Kiselev] In other words, it will not just be used in state trade enterprises but also in the market and so on.

[Gaydar] That is not even so important, but at least it will be used in all regions. In a certain sense, overcoming the cash crisis is also opening up the road for noncash transactions, because at present people simply do not have much faith in them. Nevertheless, there is no other way.

[Kiselev] There is the point of view that if there is a crisis—a particularly acute crisis to put it crudely—and if the enterprises of the fuel and power complex in Tyumen are threatened with a work stoppage, will the government seriously look at some kind of extraordinary options, even unusual ones like transactions in gold?

[Gaydar] I can only tell you one thing: that we are not currently excluding any possibilities, taking account of the really explosive situation. We are making a technical study of all possible options.

[Kiselev] Do you believe that you can master the situation?

[Gaydar] I think so. I still pin great hopes on the good sense of society, which it has shown so strikingly in recent months, in spite of the polls, which are understandable and which have not changed despite small fluctuations in the last five months. It is difficult to be an optimist today, but I think everyone understands very well that abrupt actions, abrupt movements, an attempt at present to shove the pendulum in the direction of one social group or one region, however serious the problems are, could lead to the most serious consequences.

[Kiselev] Thank you, Yegor Timurovich.

Burbulis, Trade Union Discuss Price Increases

OW3005141592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1341 GMT 30 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister of the Russian government Yegor Gaydar will deliver a statement on the social-economic consequences of price increases on fuel and steps the government will take to cushion the blow at a session of the Russian trilateral committee June 3, Russian State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis said at a meeting with the Deputy Chairman of the Council of the Federation of Independent Trade Union Vasily Romanov. The committee will also discuss the government's plans to meet obligations for issuing pay, Romanov told "IF" [INTERFAX]. He said Burbulis promised to take immediate steps to provide cash by June 3 for the employees of the Norilsk Metallurgical Center working in the Tyumen district, Kuzbass, the Republic of Komi, as well as rail and transportation workers who are threatening to strike. The State Secretary also promised to reach an agreement with Boris Yeltsin on his meeting with the trilateral committee which comprises representatives from the government, employers, and trade unions.

Gas Concern Chairman on Fuel Supply, Transport

LD3005201692 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[Interview with Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the board of the Russian State Gas Concern, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given; from the "Novosti" newscast—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Can you guarantee to our viewers and people in Russia that their cars will not run out of fuel and that they will not freeze this winter?

[Chernomyrdin] I am duty-bound to do so. It is my job. This is what I am responsible for. Regarding gas, the situation is absolutely clear. I think that our people can be sure that we will handle the situation. Regarding oil and oil products, this requires some thought. I doubt that we will allow our transport to stand still. An enormous amount of work is needed first and foremost. We will get

on with this work. I would like our viewers and our people to know—and I can tell you this—that we can keep them supplied with fuel, especially if we are talking about agriculture and the harvest, which are sacrosanct in my opinion. [video shows Chernomyrdin talking to correspondent, shot of Russian power grid on control room wall]

Titkin Predicts Domestically Sparked Renewal

LD3005054292 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1445 GMT 29 May 92

[Interview with Russian Federation Industry Minister Aleksandr Alekseyevich Titkin by unidentified correspondent on the "M-Trust" program; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] The first time we interviewed you, you had only just taken up office as Russian Industry Minister. You told us about the plans facing you, personally, and your ministry. What have you actually managed to achieve?

[Titkin] We have staffed the ministry and got our establishment up and running. We have recruited and deployed manpower. We have managed to convince virtually all the CIS republics of the virtues of our ideas on the restoration of an economic area within the former USSR, on the stabilization of industry. We have also managed to conclude bilateral agreements on joint efforts to restore economic ties and a single economic area by establishing technological corporations, i.e., restructuring the over-monopolized industrial sector on the territory of the former USSR.

Along with everybody else we have realized that if our industry, the industrial sector in each republic, attempts to go it alone, life will be very difficult, much more difficult than many had imagined; shared ways of resolving the question must be sought. That is what we have managed to achieve.

To a considerable extent we have managed to resolve the question of restoring economic ties and coordinated supplies and deliveries among enterprises, although very many questions have still not been settled. The insolvency crisis afflicting enterprises has, I think, laid all low all of industry. This is now the main problem. All others pale into insignificance in comparison. At the same time it can be said that, while the drop in production was 16 percent in January, in February-April the rate of decline slowed down a bit. The fall in production is now about 12-13 percent compared with last year.

But the liquidity situation is critical. Today we are all making intense efforts to extricate industry from this situation. I believe it is now the government's task to breathe life into industrial enterprises, to resolve these insolvency problems, so that the ones which are viable can sail on. Everyone has now realized that we mean business, that the reform is for real, and that there is no going back. Everyone has realized this now. But there has been a price to pay because everything has, to all intents and purposes, come to a standstill. Nobody can pay anybody at the moment. Although debts are all a matter of record, there is insolvency right across the board. If we now give enterprises some assistance, the ones which are viable will start working again. We also have to expose the enterprises which will never be viable, no matter what the circumstances, adopt the law on bankruptcy and deal with the unviable ones. But everything must be completely above board.

[Correspondent] Aleksandr Alekseyevich, speaking now as a former director and prominent industrialist rather than as a minister, can you tell us if our industry will ever revive?

[Titkin] Unquestionably, it will revive. In fact, you've touched on a very sore point with me. Some circles, including government circles, continue to pin their hopes on foreign aid, to believe that foreign aid will save us. Of course it won't. We will save ourselves. We will be saved by our own industrialists, Russia's industrialists, whose leadership mentality, whose way of thinking, is now changing before our very eyes. These are no longer the same conservative directors whose image has been created by the press. They are no longer the same people. They are changing before our very eyes. Therefore, the people themselves will save us. We will save ourselves. We must put our faith in the internal forces of the people. When we ourselves are strong, any assistance we receive will be more effective. We will be respected. People will work with us rather merely help us.

Justice Minister Comments on 'Just Courts'

LD3005061992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 28 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin recently submitted to the Supreme Soviet a bill on the status of the courts.

[Correspondent S.Suntsov] It is believed that the courts should be independent. This is, alongside with the legislative and executive authorities, the third power in the state. However, until recently, it remained a Cinderella. This dependence has so far not been eliminated. People's judges are more reminiscent of suppliants trying to investigate lots of inappropriate cases, ranging from the creation of elementary working conditions to household problems. But, still, the key question is the powers of the judges. They must be unlimited in time. That is what the authors of the bill believe.

[Begin Justice Minister N. V. Fedorov recording] Russians will be unable to have just courts until a just attitude to judicial authorities has been couched in clear and understandable terms. Only one example—today the wages of a people's judge are far less than those of a convoy militiaman who takes defendants to the court.

The struggle for judicial power is continuing today. The president has indeed submitted such a bill and it will, I hope, be adopted this year. Fundamentally new premises have been laid down, which make it possible to combine the appointment of judges for life, the irremovability and independence of his status, with fairly high wages and with guarantees of compulsary state insurance, etc. [end recording]

'Few Hopes' Held for Return of CPSU Funds

PM2805112592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 May 92 First Edition p 2

[Interview with Sergey Aristov, head of Russian Prosecutor's Office team investigating disappearance of CPSU funds, by Andrey Zhdankin under "Case Investigation" rubric; place and date not given: "The Search for the CPSU's Money: It Will Not Be Possible To Return Much"—first three paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] The secret of the party's money is a topical theme. Interest in it is not idle curiosity; the country is in such a pitiful financial state that, as the saying goes, every million dollars counts. How much of this money is there, and under what guise, and where, is it hidden? Can it be returned? We should all receive answers to these questions.

Some sections of the mass media are trying to present the case as if it was a question of trifles, of settling political scores. And this also requires explanation.

The case of the Communist Party's financial abuses, to be more exact, the criminal case "On the CPSU's Finances" No. 18/6214-91, is being treated separately from the case of the SCSE [State Committee for the State of Emergency]. The investigation is being conducted by a Russian Prosecutor's Office team headed by Sergey Aristov.

[Zhdankin] Sergey Alekseyevich, over many years the CPSU disposed of the state's resources as if they were its own, and money went to support regimes, movements, parties, and individuals close to the party's heart. But our "potential adversaries," as they used to say, act in the same way. The CPSU as a legal entity had the right to engage in commercial activity. What is the subject of the criminal investigation?

[Aristov] Of course, the owner has the right to dispose of his property at his own discretion. There is nothing criminal in this. But after studying materials from the archives of Kruchina, the CPSU Central Committee's administrator of affairs, and of the special department set up in the bowels of the CPSU Central Committee to coordinate the activity of commercial structures (its members were formally discharged high-ranking KGB staffers), it was necessary to discover as full a picture as possible of the party's property situation.

From the documents it is abundantly clear that, expecting future nationalization, the party prepared for it and adopted "decisive measures" to conceal funds so as to leave no trace of the party's hand and so as to make it impossible to prove to whom they belonged.

But the direct cause for treating this case separately is **the concealment and illegal conveyance abroad of state resources through CPSU decisions**. This criminally punishable activity is the main subject of the investigation. And, of course, there is the Russian president's decree of 6 November 1991 "On the Activity of the CPSU and the RSFSR Communist Party."

An essential clarification: When we say that the CPSU conveyed money abroad, we do not mean millions of communists did so. This was done by a small group (10-15 people) who were at the head of the party.

[Zhdankin] Did the CPSU really deposit huge sums of money in banks and commercial enterprises? What was the party's financial situation before its disappearance into political oblivion?

[Aristov] Yes, this has been proven. I can name the sums involved. The plan was to place up to 1 billion rubles [R] in commercial structures (joint enterprises, small enterprises, and so forth) and R3 billion in banks.

In 1990 the party's income fell sharply—its nose was shoved out of the state feeding trough—hence commercialization. One document says that the comrades from East Europe failed to capitalize on the moment of separation and had suffered as a consequence, therefore we should not allow the same. And although the CPSU had accumulated funds of a little over 5 billion, expressed in rubles, after the "separation from the state" the Communist Party would in economic terms cease to exist within three to three-and-a-half years. The deficit in the party budget for 1991 was projected at over R1 billion.

Incidentally, the provenance of these accumulated funds needs to be thoroughly investigated. Some conclusions can already be drawn on the available documents. The funds were removed from the state treasury by direct order of the CPSU Central Committee. Apart from the regular suitcase full of dollars, there were masses of ways of "suckling our friends."

It has been established that in the eighties 107,000 tonnes of paper went free of charge toward financing "friendly" publications alone. The way this was exported is like the plot of a detective story. Let us suppose that a request comes from Latin America. The required sum is allocated on the decision of the CPSU Central Committee, a freighter is loaded with paper, the documents are drawn up, and a specific firm receives the cargo. The firm pays money to "Exportles," which, without touching it, transfers it to the KGB's external intelligence section, which delivers the money to the same firm.

The documents were prepared in an original way. For example, a request for free paper came from Morocco. The CPSU Central Committee's International Department (whose deputy manager was Brutents) prepares a

certificate. He, Brutents, then writes a Council of Ministers ordinance, and again it is he who writes a Central Committee ordinance. Signatures are collected, and the paper becomes law.

Under the signature of Ligachev alone in the last eight years debts of $1.5 million were written off to "friendly firms." The expenditure was set down to "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga," that is, it was carried out at the state's expense. There are many such examples. Here is the latest. The Lebanese appeal to the CPSU Central Committee for aid. It is granted, of course. But who is charged with the burden: the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. There is no question whatsoever of expenditure by the party itself. The Council of Ministers is to allocate, the Ministry of Civil Aviation to provide, and the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations to increase purchases. All the expenditure is funded "from the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations' total appropriations." If this had all been paid for from party funds, even the fictitious party budget would not have lasted long. And how many billions went on other types of camouflaged aid: preferential trade deals and credits, all manner of debt cancellations, and even "free credits."

[Zhdankin] How much money leaked abroad? Is there an exact figure for the parties and movements "suckled" by us?

[Aristov] Aid was given to 109 parties and movements from more than 70 countries, on every continent except Antarctica. Over 10 years more than $200 million of state funds was conveyed abroad illegally in cash form. I will emphasize that this figure covers illegal conveyance only. And it is still not the final one.

[Zhdankin] It is said that this sum is not so great?

[Aristov] A pickpocket sometimes ends up in jail for several years for stealing a purse containing R5. The sum is not the issue. Why take money from the state? This money could have been directed toward the solution of our own problems. I recall how much propaganda fuss there was when kolkhoz workers had their R12 pension increased by R5. This was extolled as an achievement.

[Zhdankin] Do you believe that the expenditure of this money was not justified? After all, we acquired allies and influence?

[Aristov] This is a myth created just for ourselves. Former CPSU leaders testifying for us themselves say that no communist movement or strong parties existed abroad. There were groups of people living at our expense. Not everywhere, of course, but in the majority of countries. Many elections at which "the communists received one percent of seats in parliament" were paid for by us. Allusions to the United States are unsubstantiated, I think. There the state pays, and the taxpayer knows where his money has gone. But with us, these decisions were adopted in such secrecy that even the top state leaders did not all know. State interests were maintained by the special services via other classes of expenditure.

We have a document from a certain African country containing a request. It says that "we are 250-300 strong." They themselves do not know how many party members they have. The purport (exaggeratedly) of the letter is—if you do not send money, even these members will run away. And the money was sent. According to some information we know that often very little of this money went to the party itself or the rank-and-file communists: The leader received it personally and the party did not know about it.

[Zhdankin] How do our former leaders who are testifying assess this situation?

[Aristov] As a rule, when they find out that the money belonged to the state, their eyes bulge. For some reason they think that someone or other redeemed these sums. Politburo members far removed from the international department claim that they often gave their signatures without knowing what was on the paper. A few claimed that they knew that the money was state money but "it was necessary to do things that way." Grishin's answer is indicative. He refused to sign the protocol, saying that the prosecutor's office cannot judge party comrades; only the party can judge them.

[Zhdankin] Has the interrogation of the last general secretary moved the investigation forward?

[Aristov] Not very much.

[Zhdankin] Gorbachev will be summoned?

[Aristov] Definitely.

[Zhdankin] During these manipulations, did the money stick to unclean hands?

[Aristov] This is outside the framework of our investigation; after all, we are not researching personal accounts, but the party's property status, although we sometimes acquire interesting information in passing. We have one authenticated account for a high-ranking person, but at the moment this is not a theme for discussion.

[Zhdankin] Leaving aside the question of legality—how did the party manage the money? Did it invest in a businesslike way, profitably?

[Aristov] Many commercial structures were created on a blank space—only in order to transfer funds and legalize the money. An example—R700 million transferred by the CPSU Central Committee Administration of Affairs to the All-Army Party Committee. The committee "placed" the money unprofitably—as interest-free credit. The leaders who received it bought themselves foreign goods and a motor launch for half a million rubles. That is not how businessmen act. In relations with banks our attention was drawn by the fairly low bank interest. Whereas contracts could have been concluded at higher rates. We were unable to uncover unambiguously self-seeking motives.

[Zhdankin] Is there a hope that at least some portion of the funds will be returned from abroad?

[Aristov] Our contacts with foreign partners hold out few hopes. Documents unequivocally confirming that party money lies in such and such a place will hardly be found in the party archives. If it actually is in a certain place, then it is on the accounts of specific firms or specific individuals. In order to try to get hold of it, at least three things need to be proven: that the money belongs to a specific firm or person, the provenance of the funds, and the criminal nature of its acquisition. We have to produce these three things for the bank; it will not help us itself.

[Zhdankin] Are there people opposing the investigation?

[Aristov] No. Initially there was this feeling, but I am inclined to put it down to our Russian slovenliness, an unwillingness to do anything. Strange as it may seem, to this day we have been unable to find a common language with the Ministry of Security. They have a certain incomprehension of our tasks. But we are working very closely with external intelligence.

[Zhdankin] What has become of the secret laboratory in the Central Committee where false documents were prepared? There was a report that equipment and materials had mysteriously disappeared from it.

[Aristov] This institution's official name is the Department of Party Technology [otdel parttekhniki]. We went there, but, unfortunately, rather late. I discovered its existence only after crossing the threshold, but we ought to have gone there 21 August at the latest. We are not conducting an investigation into this laboratory, but we do have some information on it: affadavits, an inspection of the premises.

Immediately after the putsch, 21-23 August, an intensive effort to destroy documents took place there; the paper shredder was crammed. Some documents and equipment were probably carried off. We managed to find some things in the possession of the warden of the building in a completely different place. We know from eyewitness testimony that people visited the premises day and night throughout August. The department was thoroughly purged in respect of secrets. Then came a second "wave"—those who moved in also borrowed some things. We were left with the crumbs: some index cards, letterheads, impressions of seals, wigs, moustaches, and beards.

[Zhdankin] Are the state security staffers who carried out transactions involving money guilty of anything?

[Aristov] I will answer not as group leader but simply as a lawyer. Definitely no kind of criminal or other proceedings can be brought against these people. They risked their lives for the sake of the obsessions of a bunch of party leaders. There should be no persecution.

[Zhdankin] When is the investigation due to end, and will it be extended?

[Aristov] The official date for the end of the investigation is July. It will be possible to talk of an extension nearer the time.

[Zhdankin] Will anyone be brought to trial, what are the legal prospects of the case?

[Aristov] Our task is to investigate all the circumstances as objectively and in as much detail as possible. We can talk about proceedings only after the presentation of official charges. So far we have not done this.

The case is like a snowball—the deeper we go, the more facts and episodes; but we have to "cut off" the superfluous detail. Of course, a continuation is possible.

[Zhdankin] Will the materials be made public?

[Aristov] I do not determine this, but my position is as follows. What is needed is full information (the document can be called whatever you like) which should say what has been discovered in this case, what events and facts established, who took part, and whether these actions are of a criminal nature or not. It is imperative to explain at an everyday juridical level why various decisions were adopted, that is, to give an all-round and open assessment.

Supreme Soviet

Grachev on Transferring Arms to Georgia

LD2905171492 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1430 GMT 29 May 92

[Report by commentator Vera Shchelkunova from the "Mayak Panorama" program]

[Text] Just before the end of the Russian Supreme Soviet session, an address was made by General Grachev, Russian defense minister, at the demand of deputies. Grachev briefed the deputies on his recent talks with the leaders of Georgia. He was in the Transcaucasian republics on the order of Russian President Yeltsin.

Gen. Grachev said that since the advent of Georgia's new government, the situation there has improved considerably. There is a far better attitude towards the army. There are no longer any seizures of equipment, no shootings, and no shellings. [ITAR-TASS In Russian at 1532 GMT on 29 May in a similar report adds: "He [Grachev] spoke today at a joint meeting of the chambers of the Russian parliament at the request of deputies who claim that Georgian militants are using Russian military hardware in their armed actions in South Ossetia. The minister denied these claims."] However, the Georgian leaders' demands for the handover to Georgia of a part of the Russian troops and armaments stationed there in order for Georgia to set up its own army are being heard frequently. Here is what he actually said:

[Begin Grachev recording] As a result of the talks we came to an agreement that there is a possibility of

handing over equipment and armaments, but with a guarantee that the equipment and armaments do not take part in ethnic conflicts. This will only happen after a final decision by the president and approval by Russia's Supreme Soviet.

What is my reason for making such a decision? First, we should not have the same situation that has arisen in Azerbaijan. Such a situation could arise at any time. Then, just as in Azerbaijan, almost every day blood would be shed by our Russians who are captured, injured physically and morally, and subjected to other illegal events. This is the first thing. Second, there is a large Russian-speaking population on Georgia's territory. Their living conditions could become absolutely unbearable. A third factor is that if a decision is made to withdraw troops from Georgia's territory, then we will simply not be able to get out without bloodshed or without war. The more so, as ahead lies the large Caucasian range, and under our steam, it is difficult to pull out all armaments and all equipment. It would be necessary to stage a real, large-scale military operation.

For this reason I propose that the issue of the status of the stay of our troops on the territory of Georgia be resolved politically, especially since, strategically speaking, Georgia's territory is a zone of interests for Russia. A second factor is that on Georgia's territory there is a large number of troops.

In order to stabilize the situation and not to create the same sort of situation that has occurred in Azerbaijan, the handover of a proportion of the forces and of a proportion of the armaments to the Georgian army is to be decided. [end recording]

Rutskoy Urges 'Return Measures' Against Georgia

OW2805144292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1400 GMT 28 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Vice-President of the Russian Federation Aleksandr Rutskoy comes out for the most resolute return measures against Georgia. "The Georgian leaders must understand that the acts committed in South Ossetia will no longer go unpunished," he said. He welcomed the North Ossetian leaders' decision to block the military trans-Georgian road and gas pipe-line running to Transcaucasia. Rutskoy spoke at the session of the Russian parliament on Thursday [28 May] during the discussion of a parliamentary commission's trip to North Ossetia and of the situation in South Ossetia. The Commission for National-State Set-up and Ethnic Relations has drafted a resolution on priority measures to normalize the socio-political and military situation in South and North Ossetia. It gives a warning to the Georgian leaders in view of Russia's plans to take every measure to ensure the security of servicemen and all citizens of the Russian Federation. The Russian government has been instructed to take measures to ensure cease-fire in the zone of the ethnic conflict, including adequate military measures. The draft resolution also urges the North Ossetian parliament to review its decision on economic sanctions against Georgia.

The draft resolution will be discussed at the evening session of the parliament.

Filatov on Parliament, Yeltsin Relations

LD0106144892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1320 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Both the Russian president and parliament are concerned about the crisis of power at present. Our correspondent Olga Vasilenko interviews Russian Supreme Soviet First Deputy Chairman Sergey Aleksandrovich Filatov:

[Begin recording] [Filatov] I am very disappointed that the president has lately been calling for what amounts to a dissolution of the body of deputies. I know that for a long time he has been seeking to pick a fight with the parliament. But I think that this will kill off all our authority because we, together with Boris Nikolayevich, created all three structures of power: the Presidency, the Constitutional Court, and the body of deputies. We have now actually separated these structures and made them independent. Each of them discharges its own duties reasonably successfully on the whole. The Constitutional Court has already started examining issues submitted to it.

It's still too early to rejoice, because we are moving toward tackling the biggest crisis of all, that of power, the political crisis in our country. The public wants action from us, it is expecting us to get on with our work and produce results. Everyone is living in hope and displaying courage and patience over what is going on in the country at the moment.

The parliament has of course gone through various stages. There was a stage when it really was adopting conservative laws, there were times when it adopted very progressive laws, there have been ups and downs. Anything can happen. First, we have over 200 very hard-working and democratically inclined deputies. It is the presidential structures that are not working, and the president himself caused their weakening. On the other hand, the deputies have been at work since September virtually without recesses or breaks, and in that time we have enacted an enormous number—about 100—laws and several hundred enforceable acts. We have held two congresses. Given that kind of routine, of course fatigue will show.

I can say that, unfortunately, the attacks now being made, including in the press and all this talk from the president, are demoralizing the democratic factions.

[Vasilenko] As you have said, this unites the conservative factions.

[Filatov] It brings the conservative factions together, absolutely right. If we could work constructively together, the parliament and the president, and if the

president and the first vice premier of the government were at the Supreme Soviet more often to defend their policies, then we would be better equipped to do our job. So if we really do want to do something good with our society, we should be constructive and consult with each other. We have no other option. Otherwise we will simply tear our society apart and history will not forgive any of us for that. I am highly concerned about this, and I think that we should seriously start ensuring that there are sound political groupings within society, which can be relied upon, including by parliament. [end recording]

Well, I fully agree with what Sergey Aleksandrovich Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet said there. And once again let me recap on his words: The public is waiting for action from the Russian parliament.

Parliament Postpones Discussion on Ingushetiya

LD2905174892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1713 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Galina Vinitskaya]

[Text] Russian parliament deputies have agreed with a proposal of First Deputy Russian Parliament Chairman Sergey Filatov not to discuss today the draft law "On Formation of the Ingush Republic within the Russian Federation" included in the agenda.

In the words of Sergey Filatov, who met the Ingush delegation this afternoon, "there are issues to be additionally settled with the Russian president".

Sociopolitical, Regional Situations Discussed

LD2905122192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0900 GMT 29 May 92

[Report by station parliamentary correspondent Olga Vasilenko on the session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet]

[Text] Every week Russian parliamentarians are receiving a report from Goskomstat on the socio-economic situation in Russia. The section of the report which was handed out today, which deals with the sociopolitical situation, notes the demands to show firmness in solving problems of the Crimea, the Dniester region, the Kurils, and Transcaucasia, and calls to protect the state interests of Russia—these demands—are being heard more and more. Yesterday we were convinced of it here in the parliament.

As to the government's course for economic reforms, according to a poll the population supports this course, but it is already eagerly awaiting a return from the implementation of these reforms.

Despite the overall state of sociopolitical stability, strikes are still continuing and are even on the increase. From the beginning of May some 300,000 people took part in strike actions. The main demands are an increase in wages, an improvement in living conditions, and cash payments.

Workers of the State Employment Service are not idle. In April 212,000 unemployed went there. A total of 55,000 people were re-employed. Overall, on 1 May 151,000 people were recognized as unemployed, and 74,000 people were receiving unemployment benefits. So far there are no grounds to speak about mass unemployment, the Goskomstat claims, and expresses a wish for fewer gloomy forecasts by both government and non-government experts, as this causes anxiety among people.

A tendency toward decreasing industrial output is being maintained. The average daily oil extraction has fallen further. The situation in the agrarian complex is also complicated. By 25 May spring crops had been sown on about 50 million hectares. This time last year this figure exceeded 60 million hectares.

As to the situation on the consumer market, stress has been laid on meat. Its production increased by 13 percent and this allowed a drop in prices by two percent. Muscovites have probably noticed that queues have appeared at our bakeries, but bread is available. In May, according to the Goskomstat report, disruptions in bread trading were observed in Pskov, Cheboksary, Belgorod, Chelyabinsk, Omsk, Irkutsk, Vladivostok, and Khabarovsk.

There is an acute shortage of children's clothing and footwear. And what about prices? The report says that during the period between 12-19 May retail prices on 70 foodstuffs increased by 3.3 percent, and taking into account the town market by 3.7 percent. Such is the sociopolitical-economic situation we have in Russia.

As to the session, which is under way now, deputies are discussing amendments and addenda to the law on privatization.

Khasbulatov Demands Law on Government

LD2905132892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1030 GMT 29 May 92

[Report by station parliamentary correspondent Olga Vasilenko on session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet]

[Excerpts] Among today's events was the adoption of a number of laws by which the deputies made considerable improvements to our legal procedure. [passage omitted]

In addition, a very ambiguous statement was made by the chairman of Russia's Supreme Soviet [Ruslan Khasbulatov], who has incidentally now left for Kaliningrad, but he chaired this morning's session. During the very long discussion of the agenda, he suddenly said the following: There will be no reform with this Government, this central bank board, or these ministers. When will there finally be a law on the Government? When will

we finally appoint a normal prime minister in this state? Let us draw up a law on the government ourselves.

This was said as if in passing, but it was said. After that, the deputies moved on to the agenda and, as I have already reported, adopted a number of laws on legal procedure. [passage omitted]

Economics Minister Remarks on Foreign Debt

OW2705005292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2121 GMT 26 May 92

["Cover Story" from the 27 May "Business Report": "Russia Intends To Contain the Growth of Foreign Debt"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The debt of the former USSR to the West is now estimated at approximately $65 bn [billion]. In 1992 alone the Commonwealth of Independent States will need some $27 bn to service the debt. $21 bn will be required to repay the initial sum and $5-6 bn for the interest. The situation will be even worse in 1993, said Mr. Petr Aven, Russian Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, speaking at parliamentary hearings on Russia's membership of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. He said that next year foreign debt payments will reach a peak of $30 bn.

In the First Half of 1992 Russia Will Pay No More Than 10% of Its Debt to the West.

"Only Russia is at present servicing the debts of the former USSR, and this situation is hardly likely to change much in the in the near future," said Mr. Aven. In this situation joining the international financial organizations was probably the only way to relieve Russia's debt burden.

The western countries have deferred payment of $11 bn. debt until September 1992, immediately following the begging [as received] of Russia's talks with the IMF, Mr. Aven stressed.

During the first quarter of 1992 Russia paid its western creditors a total of $400 mn [million], and in the second quarter, the minister said, the amount of the repayments will remain at the same level. Thus in the first half of 1992 Russia will repay the West no more than 10% of the sum which it should have paid—this is the main argument of the Russian government in parliamentary debates with those who are opposed to Russia's joining the IMF and the World Bank.

The Government Intends To Take Fewer Loans

Of the $24 bn of western aid only $4 bn, in the opinion of the government, is new, "real money". $6 bn will go to the ruble stabilization fund, and the government is trying not to use this credit. $2.5 bn is deferred interest on the foreign debt payment. Bilateral credit agreements are assessed at $11 bn, half of which has already been given to Russia and consequently will not increase the foreign debt. The other half Mr. Aven hinted, may not be called in by Russia (for example, DM [Deutsche marks] 6.5 bn, which Germany is ready to advance).

The minister also said that the government is proposing to change the practice of advancing credits to Russian enterprises in hard currency. The enterprises will pledge their property for the state currency credits advanced to them.

Now the Russian enterprises have acquired imported equipment to the value of $8 bn which has not yet been installed.

The Debts of the Other Countries to Russia Are Unlikely To Be Repaid

On the subject of the debts owed by other countries to the former USSR, Mr. Aven said that they are estimated at approximately $120 bn, with defaulted payments amounting to $15 bn. But in the words of the minister, a large part of the debts are owed by insolvent countries.

Mr. Aven also said that a number of countries were refusing to pay their debts to the former Soviet Union for political reasons. Libya, in particular, which owes the USSR almost $24 bn, has refused to service and repay its debt following Russia's introduction of an embargo in accordance with the UN resolution.

Russia Wants To Refuse Food Credits

Mr. Aven said at the parliamentary hearings that the Russian government wanted to refuse imported foodstuffs. At present Russia is paying from $120 to $150 per ton [as received] for imported grain. In 1991 alone 25 mn tons were purchased to the value of almost $3 bn. If Russia had not bought foodstuffs, there would not be any problems with hard currency, the minister said. For this reason, in 1992 the government has sharply reduced the import of meat and butter. A radical solution to the problem, said Mr. Aven, would come after the establishment of free prices for agricultural produce and the introduction of an internally convertible ruble.

25 May Presidium Session Reported

PM2905113192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 May 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium Session"]

[Text] A routine session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium was held in the House of Soviets on 25 May. It was chaired by S.A. Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet.

There was a discussion of the president's draft Principles of Russian Federation Legislation "On Lawyers," which was passed to committees and commissions and parliamentary hearings.

In accordance with the accepted procedure in the Supreme Soviet, draft laws were submitted "On Making

Amendments and Additions to the RSFSR Code on Administrative Offenses" and "On the Procedure for Recalculating the Size of the Fines Envisaged in the RSFSR Code on Administrative Offenses," as well as a draft resolution "On the Rehabilitation of the Cossacks." They were passed on to committees and commissions for their consideration.

The Presidium backed the request by the council of the Russian Palestinian Society under the USSR Academy of Sciences to be transferred to Russian Federation jurisdiction as an international public organization contributing to the development of academic, spiritual, diplomatic, and cultural and educational links with the peoples of the Near East and Mediterranean, reviving its historic name—Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society. The government was recommended to adopt the necessary measures to revive the Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society and return its property (archives, books, cultural and other historical valuables) in accordance with available documents and other official evidence.

There was a discussion of urgent measures to improve calculations in the national economy.

The Supreme Soviet Presidium examined questions and adopted relevant resolutions on organizing the implementation of instructions contained in the acts of the Sixth Congress of Russian Federation People's Deputies and people's deputies' proposals and requests at the Congress.

The rules on the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet testimonial were approved.

The session examined some other matters of Russian state life.

Parliament Proceedings for 29 May Noted

LD2905192192

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1825 GMT on 29 May carries the 30-minute recorded "At the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet session" program on the proceedings of the 29 May session of the Russian Supreme Soviet at the Kremlin in Moscow.

The program begins with Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov, who is chairing the session, calling upon Mityukov, a member of the legislation committee, to speak about amendments to the Russian law on the court system.

Mityukov outlines the major amendments proposed and the work of the legislation committee. He calls for a vote on this law in the second reading.

Khasbulatov then calls on Russian Procurator General Stepankov to explain the terms used in his amendment. He speaks from the floor.

At 1830 GMT, the amendment is put to a vote and is passed with 74 for, 0 against, and 2 abstentions.

Mityukov goes on to read further amendments proposed by the procurator's office that the committee opposes.

Stepankov, speaking from the floor, explains that the new law in its current form would double the work of the procurators and calls upon the deputies to agree to his amendment, which would avoid this unnecessary increase in work.

The second amendment is then put to a vote and is passed with 74 for, 9 against, and 1 abstention. The law as a whole is then put to a vote and is passed with 98 for, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.

At 1838 GMT, Khasbulatov reads a decree proposing that 12 June be declared a state holiday in Russia. This is passed with 118 for, 16 against, and 4 abstentions.

Deputy Burevic then requests that the deputies listen to Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, who has come to address them.

At 1839 GMT, Grachev begins speaking about Russian military equipment in Georgian hands. He talks of the handing over of equipment to states such as Ukraine and Byelarus, and he rejects accusations made by Gamsakhurdia relating to this. He outlines his impressions of the situation in the Caucasus based on his visit there, and he speaks of the need to avoid further problems for soldiers returning from these areas.

At 1847 GMT, the deputies agree to accept Grachev's report. Poptsov is then called upon to speak about yesterday's program "The Hot Summer of Russian Diplomacy."

Poptsov explains that this program was critical. He explains that it was only the first of two programs, and it is worth waiting for the second program to see whether there is any need to take further action.

At 1851 GMT, Deputy Andronov criticizes the one-sided nature of the program and accuses the television company of mocking the Russian diplomatic service.

Poptsov states that the program's criticisms should not be taken so personally.

Regional Affairs

Deputy Alleges Nuclear Arms in North Ossetia

92P50117A Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 May 92 p 1

[NEGA item: "Nuclear Weapons in North Ossetia"]

[Text] Soltan Kalitsov, a retired major general and deputy in the parliament of North Ossetia, declared at a

session of the Supreme Soviet that strategic nuclear weapons of the former Soviet Army are based on the territory of North Ossetia.

North Ossetia To Lift Blockade of Georgia

LD3105202792 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1800 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] North Ossetia is apparently set to lift the transport and energy blockade of Georgia. This was reported today to an NUR correspondent by Yuriy Biragov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet of North Ossetia. He said the closure of the gas pipeline and the Georgian military highway had attracted the attention of the public to the events in South Ossetia, but humanitarian considerations will not permit peaceful people in Georgia and Armenia to be forced to continue to suffer.

North Ossetia Sets Up Refugee Commission

LD3005211992 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] There was a joint meeting of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of North Ossetia in Vladikavkaz today under the chairmanship of Akhsarbek Galazov, head of the parliament of North Ossetia. A decision was adopted to set up a special commission for housing refugees from South Ossetia.

A telegram was sent to the government of the Russian Federation calling for the urgent allocation of the necessary number of tents, medicines, foodstuffs, and humanitarian aid.

Rutskoy Meets With Kursk Representatives

LD3105205392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] The difficult situation in Russia's agriculture stems from the absence of a system of land management, Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy believes. He spoke today in Kursk at a meeting with representatives of the local authorities and public of the town. Presenting his program of land and agrarian reform, he proposed that 70 percent of landed estates, industrial and agricultural lands, woodcutting areas, and minor bodies of water be transferred to the ownership of the population free of charge, with the bank issuing the relevant certificates. Rutskoy believes that as a result of this the sum recovered from the sale of land could amount to more than 10 trillion rubles.

System of 'Land Banks' Discussed

OW3105123492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1221 GMT 31 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy said that in the absence of a system of exercising control over land resources Russia loses up to 50 percent of the harvest annually. Today, 48 percent of the land is not used properly, Rutskoy told Kursk leaders and public on May 31. He also proposed establishing a network of land banks which will register the land resources and exercise control over them.

Rutskoy believes that Russia will do away with food shortages if it sets up agricultural corporations based on mixed capital. The British Caroll Group is investing about 20 million pounds in an agricultural concern for the production and processing of sugar beet in the Kursk region. During the next five years this British company will invest the entire income in the development of the concern.

Having backed the government's reforms, Rutskoy noted that he had some differences with the Cabinet over ways of implementing the reform. The government's worst error is that it has not defined priorities in the development of small and medium businesses, he said. As a result, only 8 percent of the price returns to the producer, he said.

Joint Agriculture Project Cited

OW2905215492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1950 GMT 29 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Friday [29 May] the Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy arrived in the Kursk region. He is accompanied by the representatives of the "Carroll Group" British company. The company is ready to render assistance in the creation of a joint agricultural concern busy with growing and processing of sugar-beet. It is supposed to earmark 1.7 million pounds for this project.

"The project which is being developed together with Gerald Carroll is unique," Rutskoy said on his arrival to the airport. "We intend to exploit the energy resources of North, which needs agricultural products delivered from the Kursk region, and utilize the advanced technology of the British partners".

According to the Vice President, the project has a tough, purposeful form which permits to begin the processing of sugar-beet's harvest with the use of new technologies this year. The full capacity the agricultural concern is expected to be gained next year.

On the whole almost 50 aericultural corporations are planned to be created in the regions of the Russian traditional agriculture and these corporations, Rutskoy says, will solve the problems of food already next year.

Khasbulatov Visits Kaliningrad Region

LD3105235492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2005 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Biryukov]

[Text] Kaliningrad May 30 TASS—Russian parliamentary speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov continues his visit to the Kaliningrad region.

On Saturday [30 May] he visited a local sewage disposal plant that is being built near Kaliningrad. The plant, which was to be finished years ago, may not be put into operation this year either because of lack of funds and equipment.

Many foreign firms have agreed to finance the project as they hope the plant will help improve the ecological situation in the region.

Later in the day, Khasbulatov met with Baltic Sea Fleet Commander Vladimir Yegorov and Valeriy Mironov, commander of the Northwestern Group of Troops and frontier forces, to discuss the status and problems of the Russian troops in the region.

Remarks on State Power

LD2905210292 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 29 May 92

[Video interview with Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, by unidentified reporter on arrival at airport in Kaliningrad on 29 May; from the "Vesti" newscast—recorded]

[Text] Ruslan Khasbulatov arrived in Kaliningrad today. It is expected that the issue of granting the region special judicial status and the creation of a free economic zone will be discussed. [video shows Khasbulatov on tarmac at airport surrounded by journalists]

[Reporter] When will the problem of dyarchy in governing the country be resolved?

[Khasbulatov] All attempts to make us hold referendums and all these mutual accusations are not only anticonstitutional but are of an antipeople nature. Now is the time to close ranks, seek agreement, strive for peace, and make decisions together by taking into account all the circumstances and the whole difficulty of the situation. State power has become weakened.

As for all these calls from organizations to get rid of first one and then another person, I treat them with contempt. I reject them. I consider them unconstitutional, antidemocratic, and directed at destroying the Russian state.

Visits Baltiysk Naval Base

LD3105235392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 30 May 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The agrarian sector is perhaps the most prosperous in Kaliningrad's economy. For this reason Ruslan Khasbulatov's visit to the Primorskiy state vegetable farm was very much of a factfinding nature. [video shows scenes from Khasbulatov's visit to Kaliningrad Oblast, farm, warships, meeting with military]

One of the main items on the agenda for the second day of the visit was a trip to Baltiysk, the westernmost base of the Russian Navy. After an inspection of the warships a serious conversation began here on the numerous problems concerning the presence of troops in the Baltic countries. While the speaker of parliament is very cautious in questions of finance and creating new military bases on Russian territory, regarding the stand of the leaders of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia on the problem of withdrawing forces he expressed his views very definitely. [video shows Khasbulatov addressing military]

[Begin Khasbulatov recording] The states that recently received their political independence do not know what international behavior is, for we can really see a total ignoring of international law, treaty practice, and the bilateral treaties between Russia and the Baltic countries. [end recording]

Promotes Kaliningrad Development

LD3106235592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0723 GMT 31 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Biryukov]

[Excerpt] Kaliningrad, 31 May—[Passage omitted] "We stand for international cooperation in the social and economic development of the region," said the Ruslan Khasbulatov, head of the Russian parliament, "and will help create a favorable environment for attracting investment from the Baltic states, Baltic region, Ukraine, Byelarus, and the other CIS countries with an interest in organizing a major West-East trade bridge here."

Despite its financial problems Russia intends to invest sizeable sums in the region's development in view of its special geopolitical situation, said Khasbulatov. In his view it is necessary to considerably expand the powers of the authorities. They must be greater than those granted to the territory by the federative treaty and the provisions on the setting up here of the free economic zone "Yantar." A special decision by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet on this will be passed in the very near future. [passage omitted]

International Affairs

Experts Say 50 Planes Transferred to Russia

LD2905225292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] According to estimates by independent experts, at least 50 planes of the military transport aviation were secretly transferred from Ukraine to Russia after 24 August, 1991. After the resubordination of the transport aviation to Kiev, the attempts of Moscow to involve the crews of the above airplanes in the fulfillment of their task were futile. However, the attempts of the Ukraine's Defense Ministry to bring back the stolen planes haven't been successful either.

World Bank Delegation Ends Kiev Visit

LD0106055392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1450 GMT 31 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A World Bank delegation has been working in Kiev for an entire week. At a concluding news conference, World Bank Vice President Lawrence Summers said that the delegation was primarily interested in the progress of economic reform in Ukraine, on which the success of prospects for cooperation depend. He noted that in terms of the pace of economic reform Ukraine was lagging behind Russia. Overseas bankers are most worried by the substantial budget deficit and ineffective systems of taxation and social protection. They also believe that state orders to enterprises and agricultural subsidies are disproportionately large.

Supreme Soviet Leader Meets French Ambassador

LD2705200292 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 27 May 92

[Text] On 26 May Vasyl Durdynets, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine, received Hugues Pernet, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of France to Ukraine, at his request. This was their first official meeting and, as Vasyl Durdynets put it, we had things to say to each other.

The guest was interested in issues of strengthening existing and establishing new contacts between France and independent Ukraine and in the internal and external political line of the parliament and the Ukraine Government.

The ambassador of France listened with understanding to the information about Ukraine's balanced position at talks with Russia on the issue of the Crimea. The first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine explained the concept of Ukraine's entering European civilization and the principles on the basis of which Ukraine is ready to cooperate with any country of Europe and the world. The main one among them is equal partnership.

The talk took place in the spirit of complete mutual understanding and interest in strengthening and expanding Ukrainian-French cooperation in economic, political, and spiritual spheres.

National Affairs

Resolution Raises Minimum Wages, Pensions

AU2905081692 Lvov ZA VILNU UKRAYINU in Ukrainian 9 May 92 p 2

[Ukrainian Supreme Council resolution "On Raising Social Guarantees for the Population"; issued in Kiev on 29 April]

[Text] The Supreme Council of Ukraine resolves as follows:

1. To establish, starting 1 May 1992, a minimum wage of 900 rubles [R] per month.

The minimum wage does not include additional payments, increments, money awards, or other incentive payments.

The aforementioned minimum wage is introduced for workers of all enterprises, institutions, and organizations regardless of forms of ownership, type of activity, or branch affiliation.

2. To establish, starting from 1 May 1992, the minimum old-age pension of R800.

3. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, proceeding from the new levels of minimum wages and pension, must revise the size of social allowances (for families with children, unemployed, temporarily disabled, and so on), scholarships for students of institutions of higher learning, postgraduates, persons working toward their doctorate degree, students at secondary special and vocational educational establishments.

4. To regard prices that were in effect in May 1992 as basic ones for the indexation of the population's money incomes.

5. To authorize the Cabinet of Ministers, jointly with the National Bank of Ukraine and commissions of Ukraine's Supreme Council for questions of planning, budget, finance, and prices and for questions of social policy and labor to elaborate, by 12 May 1992, proposals on the mechanism of regulating social guarantees for the population and submit them, together with the budget, to Ukraine's Supreme Council for consideration.

6. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine must do the following:

to determine the procedure for revising the levels of state pensions fixed prior to 1 May 1992 proceeding from proportions that took shape between the minimum pension prior to 1 May and the minimum pension specified by the present resolution;

to increase the tax-exempt minimum wage earned by citizens for the fulfillment of labor duties and other incomes and to introduce changes into the size of earnings liable to sliding-scale taxation.

I. Plyushch, chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council
Kiev, 29 April 1992

Appeal Made for Retention of Regional Soviets

LD3105222692 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1606 GMT 31 May 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Donetsk—People's Deputies of the Donetsk regional soviet believe that soviets should remain one of the state's major institutions and ask their electors to support their stand in the public discussion of Ukraine's draft constitution.

The deputies appeal to the public, published in local media on May 30, reads as follows: Ukraine's law 'on local soviets of the people's deputies' has deprived soviets of their powers and turned them into an appendage of local administrations. At present, they can only back whatever decisions are made by the administration. Adoption of this law was just a step towards turning Ukraine into a totalitarian state. The Soviets have also been deprived of any executive powers. Under such circumstances people's deputies will not be able to act in accordance with the electors' will and efficiently oppose any destructive action or inaction on the part of Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers and the republic's Supreme Soviet in the matters of the economy management and development of the state.

Ukraine's law on local soviets of the people's deputies and local and regional self-administration was passed on March 26, 1992.

Efforts To Help 'Yuzhmash' Conversion Noted

PM2205125792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 18 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast: Video report by G. Klimov and A. Senin, from Dnepropetrovsk]

[Text] [Klimov over video of street scenes] The Yuzhnyy Machine Building Plant Association [Yuzhmash], which for many years was the reason why Dnepropetrovsk was a closed city, has now itself opened its gates to foreigners. The "Yuzhmash" was maintained by means of colossal state subsidies for many years. Now, in the age of conversion, the space rocket concern is forced to seek new partners and investors, among other things abroad. Talks are under way with Australians about commercial launches of "Zenit" rockets. If an agreement is reached, a cosmodrome for launching "Yuzhmash" rockets will be built on the green continent in Queensland State.

At present dozens of various types of consumer goods are produced at the association—children's tricycles and various household gadgets... The output also includes tractors. Now the first articulated trolleybus has been produced and is being tested.

Nonetheless, the "Yuzhmash" is in a difficult financial situation. It is sufficient to say that the average wage in the highly skilled collective with its unique technologies does not exceed 2,000 rubles. With a view to preserving the scientific potential of this conversion enterprise, the Ukrainian Government is planning to place additional state orders here, provide interest-free credit, and step up social protection for the collective of this major defense industry enterprise. [video shows Dnepropetrovsk street scenes, consumer goods and tractors produced at the plant, and photographs of rockets]

Byelarus

Dissolution of Parliament Referendum Announced

LD2905235792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Byelarusian Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich stated today that a referendum on the early dissolution of the Supreme Soviet will take place. Any other decision would be a scandal for the authorities and would mean that they are afraid of public opinion, since over 370,000 citizens of Byelarus supported this idea during a poll and called for a plebiscite. Describing the sociopolitical situation in the republic, the head of state said that it was very tense, especially because of the absence of ready money. Shushkevich hopes that the payment coupons that were put into circulation this week will help to stabilize the situation.

Government To Gradually Decrease Size of Army

OW0106113292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1110 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Byelarus Defence Minister, General Pavel Kozlovskiy has announced that the planned 50-percent national army reduction will be gradual without harm to the servicemen's moral and material interests. The Army will be more than 90 thousand men strong by the end of the reform.

General Kozlovskiy revealed in an interview with "IF" [INTERFAX] that 62 military units would be disbanded this year. He disclosed that at the Defence Ministry's Headquarters and Departments, the number of officers would be cut by 15-20 percent. The generals' total in the Byelarus Armed Forces will be halved to comprise 45-47 men.

Minister: Military Doctrine 'Solely Defensive'

LD3005140392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1241 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Moscow, May 30 ITAR-TASS—The Byelarusian military doctrine bears solely defensive character, the defence minister of the republic, Colonel-General Pavel Kozlovskiy, said in an interview with the RED STAR newspaper published today. According to him, Byelarus "has no intention to attack any one, and all tactical nuclear weapons have already been taken out of its territory.

The defence minister also said that there are plans to free the republic of strategical nuclear weapons and to make a considerable cut in the number of tanks.

According to Kozlovskiy, proceeding from the defence tasks of the Byelarusian Army, its strength will be reduced and brought down to 90-thousand men. As far as the composition of the armed forces is concerned, it will include land forces, air force and anti-air formations. The minister clarified that all "formations deployed at present on the territory of the republic, which do not form the part of the CIS strategic armed forces, are transferred under the command of the Byelarus Ministry of Defence."

Speaking of difficulties in material-technical supplies to military units, the colonel-general said that he looks forward to cooperation with other member countries of the CIS. According to him, now supplies to Byelarus from other Commonwealth states have ceased. "Of course, it will be too naive to think that the republic can produce all that is necessary for its armed forces. But we have no intention to separate ourselves from other member countries of the CIS by drawing the iron curtain," he said. The defence minister emphasised, Byelarusian defence industires produce a lot of things which are required by the unified armed forces, and it means that other CIS members will also be interested in maintaining close contacts in material-technical supplies to our armed forces.

Moldova

Further on Parliament's 27 May Special Session

MK2905163292 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 May 92 p 1

[Aleksandr Tago report under the "Moldova" rubric: "Supreme Soviet Session Ends—Questions Remain. Will Today's Meeting of Four States' Foreign Ministers Answer Them?"]

[Text] The extraordinary session of the Moldovan parliament ended Wednesday [27 May] evening with the adoption of a resolution "On Certain Measures To Normalize the Situation in Left Bank Regions of the Dniester That Has Developed as a Result of Foreign Military Intervention" (NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA No. 100). The 10-point document points out that the parliament "is voicing concern and indignation at the overt aggression of the 14th Army under Russian jurisdiction against Moldovan sovereignty and independence" and asks the Russian leadership "to unconditionally withdraw the army of occupation from Moldovan territory." In the document the parliament expresses its commitment to political means of settling the conflict. The government has been ordered to take all steps to defend the population of the Dniester region "from attacks by bandit armed formations of separatists." The session stressed that these measures do not envisage hostilities on Moldova's part. The resolution also states that some parliamentary commissions, the government, state organizations, and the republic's mass media have not taken all steps to prevent the escalation of the conflict. It follows therefore that the parliament deemed everyone responsible for the present conflict, barring the president and itself. The original draft document also proposed including on the list of culprits the parliament's presidium, but this was prevented by its

chairman, Mosanu. He unexpectedly asked to resign (NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA No. 100). Thus, the speaker protested at the increasingly frequent attacks by a number of agrarian deputies. In his statement he underlined that these attacks are due not so much to his mistakes in resolving the Dniester problem as to his political views. By all accounts he was referring to his recent statement in Turkey that the unification of Moldova and Romania is inevitable. Some deputies who are eager for Mosanu's ouster asked for the question of his resignation to be put to the vote immediately. However, a majority of deputies prevented this question being put to the vote.

Plenty of charges were leveled at the government during the session, although they were not all reflected in the resolution. In it the government was instructed to immediately form a state commission to hold talks with Ukraine and Russia. The document virtually makes no mention of the subject of the talks, although it undoubtedly means them to coordinate issues pertaining to the withdrawal of troop units under Russian jurisdiction and CIS Joint Armed Forces from Moldovan territory. The first 100 servicemen from the Chisinau airborne regiment have already left the republic's territory. The others are preparing to withdraw. They are leaving all their equipment behind on the unit's territory, but no decision has as yet been made as regards its handover to Moldova's national army. This regiment is virtually the last troop unit on the Right Bank of the Dniester not to have been transferred to the republic's jurisdiction, and Moldova is clearly reluctant to have a potential adversary in the center of its capital. Admittedly, this reluctance also extends to 14th Army units in the Dniester region. But this time the Moldovan leadership can do nothing to make its wishes a reality.

The problem of the 14th Army will perhaps be the main one broached at the meeting of the Moldovan, Russian, Ukrainian, and Romanian foreign ministers due to open midday today in Chisinau. That was why it was decided that the four states' defense ministers would take part in it also. The command of the 14th Army and military observers from the four states who have already worked in the conflict zone and are aware of the real situation may also be involved in the next round of talks. They are all to come to Chisinau since the initial suggestion that this meeting be held in Odessa was not accepted.

Another interested party—the Dniester region—also hopes to take part in the Chisinau talks. As already announced, the Dniester Moldavian Republic Supreme Soviet session in Tiraspol has suspended its work until 30 May in order to see how the session of the Moldovan parliament and the Chisinau summit meeting end. If the decisions do not suit Tiraspol a new spiral of tension is inevitable—the Dniester Moldavian Republic Supreme Soviet intends to adopt a Declaration of Sovereignty and Independence from Moldova.

Parliament Statement Published

AU3005174692 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1900 GMT 29 May 92

[Septimiu Roman report from Chisinau]

[Text] The decision of the parliament of the Republic of Moldova concerning certain measures to ameliorate the situation in the Dniester region, with respect to the foreign military involvement was published today in Chisinau.

The document asserts: Having examined the briefing presented by President Mircea Snegur concerning the situation in the republic with respect to the foreign military involvement, the parliament expresses its concern and indignation about the open aggression of the 14th Army placed under jurisdiction of the Russian Federation against the sovereignty and independence of our state.

Our police forces, the peaceful population living in the conflict zone, and the volunteers—under unequal combat circumstances, sometimes lacking even the elementary prerequisites needed for appropriate self defense operations—are displaying patriotic sacrifice, courage, and heroism. The local organs of state power and the civil population living on both sides of the Dniester River are compelled to act under extreme circumstances, on their own initiative, managing somehow to enable the cease-fire agreement to be observed in the Stefan Voda, Slobozia, Anenii Noi, and Grigoriopol rayons.

The parliament believes that the evolution of the events in the conflict zone would have taken a different turn if the Supreme Security Council, the Presidium of the parliament, the government, and the parliamentary Commission set up on 1 April had made maximum effort to normalize the situation. Thus, taking notice of the report of the Conciliation Commission presented by First Deputy Prime Minister Constantin Oboroc; the briefings of the parliamentary commissions presented by Alexandru Arseni, Mihai (?Cotolobai), and Petru Soltan concerning the fulfillment of parliament Decision Number 975 issued on 19 March concerning measures to normalize the political situation in the republic; Decision Number 986 issued on 31 March concerning the briefing of the president on the situation after the introduction of the state of emergency; and Decision Number 1,000 issued on 1 April concerning the establishment up of a parliamentary commission to elaborate suggestions aimed at solving problems in the rayons situated on the left bank of the Dniester River—the parliament found that most of the stipulations of these decisions have not been implemented so far.

This is due to a large extent to the position adopted by the separatist leaders, who do not want to allow the conflict to be settled on the basis of international norms and practices, and to the fact that they have been promoting a policy of force.

The parliament, in its status of supreme body of state power of a sovereign and independent country, a member of the United Nations and the CSCE, and as the internationally acknowledged territory of the Republic of Moldova is inalienable within its borders recognized in conformity with international norms, decides the following:

1. It considers the involvement of the 14th Army of the Russian Federation in the armed conflict in the Dniester rayons an act of intervention against the Republic of Moldova. It demands that the Supreme Soviet and the Government of the Russian Federation should order the immediate return of the military units, military equipment and the combat facilities of the 14th Army within the areas of its garrisons and the unconditioned withdrawal of that army from the sovereign territory of Moldova. The military units of the 14th Army, until their final withdrawal, will not execute tactical exercises or drills and not move from their current locations except after prior agreement of the Moldovan Government.

2. Parliament and the president reassert their position concerning the peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Dniester rayons. The government will take the necessary steps to ensure the protection of the rights of all citizens and legal organs of the state authority and those of the local administration in the conflict zone.

3. Parliament considers the meetings held in Helsinki, Chisinau, and Lisbon of the foreign ministers of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine to be important, as those meetings are aimed at disengaging the opposing parties and defusing the conflict. The local self-administration bodies will take the necessary steps to firmly implement the mechanism suggested during these meetings.

4. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs will take concrete steps aimed at organizing a summit conference of the leaders of the four countries—Moldova, the Russian Federation, Romania, and Ukraine—which will also be attended by CSCE experts, who will examine the issue of ending the involvement of the foreign army and ways to settle the armed conflict on the left bank of the Dniester.

5. The government will set up without delay state commissions for economic, political, and military negotiations with the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

6. The government and the appropriate parliamentary commissions will present no later than 5 June draft bills concerning territorial administrative reform, guaranteeing the personal rights of ethnic, linguistic, and religious minority groups.

7. Parliament endorses initiatives of the parliamentary groups and of social and political groups with respect to organizing meetings with the legitimate deputies and representatives of the legal state and local authorities from the left bank of the Dniester, in order to speed up the process of peacefully settling the conflict and to preserve the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova.

8. The commission established to work out the new draft constitution of the Republic of Moldova will speed up its work, in order to submit the draft to public scrutiny and the expertise of certain competent international fora. Parliament endorses the proposal made by the Conciliatory Commission that the draft constitution be submitted to a vote of the people of Moldova through a referendum.

9. Parliament considers the coordination by the Supreme Security Council and the government of the activities of the troops under command of the Interior Ministry, the National Security Ministry, and the volunteer groups sent to the conflict zone to have been inefficient.

10. Parliament considers inadequate—related to the requirements raised by the current situation—the activities of the permanent parliamentary commissions for human rights, national relations, local self-administration and economy, state security and military issues, crime, and science and education. The same assessment is made of the activities of the republic's procuratorial officials, the State Department for National Issues, the national television and radio company, the national news agency MOLDOVA-PRES, and of the newspapers SFATUL TARII [THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTRY], MOLDOVA SUVERANA [SOVEREIGN MOLDOVA], and (?KNEZAVISMAYA) MOLDOVA.

11. Control over this decision of parliament will be exerted by the Presidium of the parliament.

12. This decision of parliament becomes effective on the date it has passed parliament.

[Signed] Alexandru Mosanu
chairman of the parliament of the Republic of Moldova

Officers Refuse To Obey Army Command Orders

PM2905185992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 May 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Viktor Litovkin report: "Several 14th Army Officers and Warrant Officers Refuse To Obey Command"]

[Text] Despite the cease-fire agreement reached between the leadership of Moldova and the Dniester Region, the situation in that area remains complex.

The editorial office has learned that sporadic fire-fights involving automatic weapons occurred throughout 27 May in the Dubossary area. Near Bendery, a Dniester Region self-defense detachment detained a Romanian officer dressed in civilian clothes who was found to be carrying a weapon.

For several days, Tiraspol residents have been besieging the motorized rifle division's military camp and have been asking officers and warrant officers to refuse to follow the orders of the 14th Army Command and switch to the side of the Dniester Region inhabitants, bringing with them their weapons and combat hardware. This effort has produced some results. Officers and warrant

officers from a combat engineer unit deployed at Parkany village, which is a few kilometers from Tiraspol, have refused to submit to the orders of the 14th Army Command.

The army's commander, Major General Yuriy Netkachev, has been constantly talking to the troops and has been asking his subordinates to observe strict neutrality, not to succumb to provocation, and to carry out only the military council's orders.

A session of the Dniester Moldovan Republic Supreme Soviet, which plans to discuss the procedure for implementing the 30-day truce agreement, is scheduled to take place 30 May.

'Army of Self-Defense' Members Abandon Dniester

LD2905141692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1254 GMT 29 May 92

[By MOLDOVA-PRES correspondent]

[Text] Chisinau, 29 May—Reliable sources have informed a MOLDOVA-PRES correspondent that members of detachments of the so-called Ukrainian Army of Self-Defense fighting on the side of the Dniester region are abandoning the conflict zone. They are thus fulfilling the 27 May order of Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk. That order pointed out, among other things, that if this order is not fulfilled within 48 hours, Ukrainian citizens voluntarily arriving in Moldova will be arrested by Ukrainian law-enforcement bodies.

14th Army Withdrawal From Dniester Decided

PM2905193192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 May 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Viktor Litovkin report: "The 14th Army Withdrawal from the Dniester Region Has Been Decided. But It Is Not Yet Clear How This Should Be Done"]

[Text] The decision adopted by the Russian president on the withdrawal of the 14th Army from the Dniester Region has evoked a stormy reaction in Tiraspol, Dubossary, and Bendery. Russian military units are being besieged by local inhabitants whose banners display a whole range of slogans and insulting inscriptions, ranging from "Traitors" to "Russian officers, do not leave Russian-speaking people without protection."

We have already reported (Issue No. 124) that a number of 14th Army officers and warrant officers are refusing to comply with demands for maintaining neutrality. A combat engineer unit billeted at Parkany village, a few kilometers from Tiraspol, refuses to submit to the 14th Army Military Council.

The leaderships of the CIS Joint Armed Forces and the Russian Ministry of Defense have refused to confirm or deny this report to the IZVESTIYA correspondent, or to comment on it in any way. They continue to insist that control of the army has not been lost, and that the army continues to comply with the instructions of its command.

However, independent military experts claim that it will be very difficult to implement the Russian president's ordinance on withdrawing the 14th Army from the Dniester Region. Incidentally, this has also been confirmed by Major General Yuriy Netkachev himself.

He told a journalist: "I have not yet received the order to withdraw the army, but I have no idea how this can be done."

The point is that the 14th Army is an army in name only. In actual fact it is a reduced-strength combined unit. That is to say, it has enough weapons and combat hardware for a full-scale army which can be deployed during war, but the number of officers and warrant officers is barely sufficient for an ordinary motorized rifle division. In a critical situation the army personnel are to be reinforced by reservists living in the area of the army's deployment.

It has to be borne in mind that more than half of the Army's current command personnel, and especially its middle and younger component, are local residents. It is only human that they side with their kith and kin and share and defend their interests.

Observers draw attention to the role played in the Dniester Region by Reserve Colonel General Albert Makashov. His assessments of the opposing sides' alignment of forces, and his constant emphasis on the weakness of the defense positions of the Dniester Region inhabitants are continuously stirring up the local population and further increasing tension.

Experts believe that the situation as regards the withdrawal of the 14th Army may be exactly the same as the situation with the 366th Motorized Rifle Regiment in Stepanakert (Khankendy). At that time more than 100 people—officers and warrant officers of the regiment, Armenians by nationality, totaling almost 30 percent of its command staff, stayed behind in Nagorno-Karabakh together with their combat hardware and weapons. Not even the assault troops which covered the regiment's withdrawal to Georgia were capable of wresting these arms from them.

The question of the 14th Army withdrawal from the Dniester region has essentially been decided, Andrey Kozyrev, Russian Federation Minister of Foreign Affairs, said at a meeting with Russian Federation Supreme Soviet deputies and representatives of various Russian parties and public movements held at the Foreign Ministry press center. The only remaining problem is the question of timing and conditions.

According to the minister, this problem, that is the problem of the timing and conditions of the withdrawal, will be the subject of talks of foreign affairs and defense ministers of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania which are to be held in Chisinau. According to Kozyrev,

the question of the Dniester Region's political and legal status is also going to occupy a substantial place at the talks.

True, RIA reports that the meeting which was scheduled for 29 May will not take place, it is being moved to a later date, provisionally to 1 June.

News agencies report that the cease-fire in the Dniester Region is contantly being violated by automatic-weapon and machine-gun fire. According to Moldova's press bureau, a patrol came under fire during the last 24 hours near Delakeu village. There are dead.

The Russian Ministry of Defense press center has informed the editorial office that a group of military observers from the Russian Federation consisting of 25 people has arrived in Bendery and embarked on the implementation of its tasks in monitoring the observance of the cease-fire agreement and organizing the disengagement of the opposing sides.

A session of the Dniester Moldovan Republic Supreme Soviet is scheduled for 30 May. It will discuss the procedure of the implementation of the 30-day truce and other questions connected with the normalization of the situation in the Dniester Region, in particular after the 14th Army's withdrawal.

The session promises to be a stormy one.

Snegur Reacts

LD3005112692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0920 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Excerpts] Chisinau, 30 May—"Triumph of common sense"—this was Moldovan President Mircea Snegur reaction today to a statement by Boris Yeltsin that the 14th Army deployed in Moldova would be withdrawn from its territory. Mircea Snegur said this in a interview to a correspondent of the London FINANCIAL TIMES newspaper, excerpts from which are published in the local media. The Moldovan president expressed hope that the decision by the Russian leader "will not be blocked by hostile forces." [passage omitted]

Fights and fierce exchanges of fire between forces of the Moldovan police and armed formations of the Dniester guard died down for the second day running already. A truce has become possible in many respects thanks to the efforts by field commanders on both sides who have managed to agree on a cease-fire on the spot without politicians. Nevertheless, according to the press centers of the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Tiraspol, a Moldovan sniper killed a Dniester volunteer.

Army Leader Criticizes Decision

LD3105224892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2130 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Vyacheslav Sitnikov, chief of staff of the 14th Army, said Yeltsin's statement on the withdrawal of the 14th Army units from the Dniester Region was not thoroughly thought out. He noted that most staff of the army were inhabitants of the Dniester Region. The officers and warrant officers have apartments in Tiraspol, Bendery, and Dubossary. It is hardly expedient to give all this up and move to no one knows where, noted the chief of staff. He did not exclude the possibility of some of the officers going over to the side of the Dniester Region's leader. Moldovan President Mircea Snegur also does not exclude such a possibility. In an interview to the London newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES he stressed that in the case of officers going over to Igor Smirnov, the international community would have to isolate that part of the world in order to avert a great human tragedy.

A meeting of the extraordinary session of the Dniester Region Supreme Soviet will take place on 2 June. It is planned to finally settle the issue of the state structure of the Dniester Region Moldavian Republic at the session.

More Criticisms Noted

AU0106125092 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1000 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Septimiu Roman report from Chisinau]

[Text] According to information we received last night, the situation was calm in the conflict zone. However, the communique issued this morning by the National Defense Ministry of the Republic of Moldova reports that after three calm days—since the assignment of the military observers began in that zone on the evening of 28 May—fire was opened again last night in several parts of the conflict zone.

On the afternoon of 31 May, heavy automatic rifle fire directed against the village of Molovata was opened from the banks of the Dniester, the communique says. Representatives of the guardsmen confirmed over the phone that they had broken the cease-fire agreement. In the area of the hydroelectric power plant dam near Cocieri heavy automatic rifle and grenade fire was reported between 2000 and 2300 yesterday. Automatic rifle and machine gun fire was also reported throughout the whole night, until 0500 this morning. It came from the bridgehead near Cosnita and was directed against Moldovan positions near Pogrebea. Consequently, an electric power transformer has caught fire. Separatists confirmed that they had opened fire in this case, too. Defenders of the bridge near Cosnita also saw a group of guardsmen, which approached them to a distance of approximately 100 meters, meaning to attack, but they were repelled. All this proves the uncertainty of the situation in the

conflict zone—the communique says—and that separatist forces will break any cease-fire agreement whenever they like. There were no reports of deaths or injuries during that tense night, the communique of the National Defense Ministry of the Republic of Moldova concludes.

Viacheslav (?Sytnikoff), head of the general staff of the 14th Army, criticized plans announced by the president of the Russian Federation, Boris Yeltsin, meaning to withdraw the 14th Army from the territory of the Republic of Moldova, Radio Chisinau—quoting Radio Free Europe and Radio Moscow—reports. (?Sytnikoff) said that there are no grounds for Yeltsin's intention, as it ignores the fact that the majority of that Army's officers and non-commissioned officers dwell in Tiraspol, Tighina, and Dubossary. (?Sytnikoff) also said that he does not rule out the possibility of a number of 14th Army officers going over to the separatist forces. I would like to remind you that Boris Yeltsin said on 27 May in Barnaul that Russia would withdraw its 14th Army from the Republic of Moldova.

The leaders in Tiraspol addressed an appeal—allegedly in the name of that town's population—to Boris Yeltsin, asking the Russian president not to withdraw the 14th Army from the territory of the Republic of Moldova, as that force is the sole obstacle to the generalization of the military conflict and the violation of human rights, the appeal pleads. Correspondents in Tiraspol reported that signatures to support that appeal are being collected throughout the whole area on the left bank of the Dniester.

Dniester Republic Congress Declares Independence

LD3005183292 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The congress of Moldovan people in the Dniester republic proclaimed the independence of that region of Moldova today and called on Russia and Ukraine to recognize the new republic. Our correspondent has just reported this from the locality.

Refugees Reject Independence Call

LD3005200592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[Video report by V. Luskanov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The lull on the Dniester front in Moldova continues for the second day running. A cease-fire became possible thanks to the efforts of the field commanders, who agreed on a cease-fire themselves, without the participation of politicians.

Moldovan media have circulated an appeal from refugees from the Dniester region in which they call on their compatriots not to take part in the congress of Moldovans being convened by the Dniester authorities. The refugees are calling for the unity of Moldova. Nonetheless, the congress has begun, and has proclaimed the independence of the Dniester region.

[Luskanov] In expectation of a new round of political consultations among Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, and Romania, the war in the Dniester region has been frozen, on the edge of fear and hope. Both sides basically are controlling the actions of their armed detachments on the frontlines.

Nonetheless, solitary shots still ring out. At the dam of the Dubossary hydroelectric station, Ivan Fedorovich Povalov, a left bank irregular, was killed by a sniper. In Bendery, the only place so far where it has been possible to separate the conflicting sides, joint observers have started round-the-clock patrols. The observers are officers of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania. So far there are 100 observers.

[Begin unidentified Romanian observer recording] Basically, the situation in Bendery is calm. The regulations in the treaty of the foreign ministers are being followed. [end recording]

A congress of representatives of the Moldovan people of the Dniester region took place in Tiraspol today. At the congress 770 delegates of the ethnic majority of the left bank voted for the state independence and sovereignty of the Dniester region. In the appeal adopted to the parliaments and governments of Russia and Ukraine, they called for recognition of the Dniester region.

The cease-fire is not extending to the media. Both sides are carrying out a harsh war of words, repeating the mirror images of propaganda stereotypes. That is better than war, but worse than peace.

Army Accused of Aiding Dniester Separatists

LD3005212592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1954 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, May 30 TASS—Moldovan Defence Minister Ion Kostash has accused the Russian Army of supporting separatists in the break-away Dniester republic.

At a news conference in Chisinau on Saturday [30 May], Kostash revealed several facts proving the involvement of the 14th Russian Army stationed in Tiraspol in the conflict, including arms transfer to Dniester militants.

Kostash said the weapons that Moldova received from the former Soviet Army are enough to "work it out with armed groups of separatists, if such a decision is passed by the parliament and the republican leadership".

The minister also accused the Russian Defence Ministry of preventing Moldovan officers serving in Russia from returning to Moldova.

Commenting on his recent order banning unsanctioned flights over the territory of Moldova, Kostash said all violators will be shot down by Moldovan anti-aircraft units.

He said the Moldovan and Russian defence ministers will meet in Moscow on June 1 to discuss ways to settle the conflict in the Dniester republic. Kostash said a meeting of the foreign and defence ministers of Moldova, Russia, Romania and Ukraine scheduled for May 29 in Chisinau did not take place because the participants failed to agree where the meeting should be held.

Defense Minister Costas Appeals For Peace

LD3105204192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1550 GMT 31 May 92

[By MOLDOVA-PRES correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Chisinau, 31 May—There is no sensible nor honest person in our state who would wish for the continuation of bloodshed, it is stated in an appeal by General Ion Costas, the republic's minister of defense, disseminated by the Moldovan mass media today to officers, ensigns, and privates in the national army and to all citizens of the republic. The parliament, the president, and the army do not want war.

However, under conditions where the threat to the independence and integrity of the republic has repeatedly grown, this is not the time to show faintheartedness or to yield to feelings and emotions, the document notes.

The minister called for an honored task to be carried out—restoring peace and calm to Moldovan land and strengthening order and discipline within military subunits.

Ministry Denies Importing Tanks From Romania

LD3105153692 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1430 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Moldova has issued a statement, saying:

In connection with the allegations made by General Pavel Grachev, defense minister of the Russian Federation, on 30 May on the Ostankino television channel, according to which the Republic of Moldova recently has received tanks from Romania, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova reports that, according to data received by the Moldovan Ministry of Defense, the army of Moldova does not have tanks at its disposal at this moment. Consequently, statements about the delivery of tanks from Romania do not correspond to reality. Recently pontoons did arrive from Romania to guarantee the delivery of foodstuffs and medicines to inhabitants of villages on the left bank of the Dniester in places where bridges either have been destroyed or have been made unusable by detachments of guardsmen using combat equipment of the Russian 14th Army.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs notes that such statements deliberately distorting reality justify the participation of the 14th Army in the conflict. Moreover, such statements also may be assessed as an attempt to thwart the efforts toward a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the east of the Republic of Moldova, which are being undertaken within the framework of political consultations between the ministers of foreign affairs of the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Romania, and Ukraine.

I remind you that Pavel Grachev said today that the 14th Army has not taken part, is not taking part, and will not take part in conflict.

That was a statement by the Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Romania Denies Supplying Arms

LD3105200192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1903 GMT 31 May 92

[by ITAR-TASS corrrespondent Nilolay Morozov]

[Text] Bucharest, May 31 TASS—We believe the Republic of Moldova can ask any state, including Russia and Romania, for support to create its own armed forces. Romania did not keep secret that it was ready to give an affirmative answer to such a request from Moldovan authorities.

This thesis was underlined in a Romanian Foreign Ministry's statement in Bucharest today in connection with a statement by Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev made on Russian national television channel "Ostankino." The Russian defense minister asserted the Romanian side has been delivering weapons to Moldova.

From the information submitted by the Romanian Ministry of National Defense it follows that Romania delivered some means of transport and pontoon-bridges to Moldova on a commercial basis, the statement goes. There is not a single Romanian military adviser on the Moldovan territory. The only servicemen from the Romanian Army in Moldova are the twenty-four military observers in Bendery who were sent there on the basis of the quadrilataral agreements at the foreign minister level, the statement says.

The statement also touches on the interference in the conflict of the 14th Army, which, according to the Romanian Foreign Ministry, has armed and is giving support to groupings in the Trans-Dniester Region.

Foreign Ministers' 1 Jun Meeting Postponed

LD3105133592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1240 GMT 31 May 92

[By unidentified MOLDOVA-PRES correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Chisinau, 31 May—In accordance with a mutual agreement between Nicolae Tiu and Andrey Kozyrev, the foreign ministers of the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation, respectively, their planned meeting in Moscow on 1 June has been postponed to a later date. This was reported today at the press office of the Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

General Makashov Reportedly Leaves Dniester

OW0106141992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1404 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Chairman of the Dniester Republic's Defence Committee Vladimir Rylyakov has denied reports about Dniester President Igor Smirnov's plans to make General Albert Makashov his military adviser.

Vladimir Hylyakov told IF [INTERFAX] that Makashov had arrived in the Dniester Republic on a private visit. Makashov was told on many occasions that his presence in that region was undesirable for political reasons. Vladimir Rylyakov said that Albert Makashev has left the Dniester Republic.

According to reports from Chisinau and Tiraspol, the night May 31 was relatively calm in the zone of armed confrontation between the Moldovan police and the Dniester guards. The Dniester government's operations reports have provided no casualty accounts.

Kazakhstan

President Nazarbayev Speaks on New Constitution

OW0106113692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1109 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In his speech on the draft of a new constitution at Monday's [1 June] session of the Republican Supreme Soviet, Kazakhstan's President emphasized that the document would safeguard human rights.

The constitution pioneers Kazakh National Statehood with the simultaneous guarantee of the rights of all other nations.

By the new constitution, Kazakhstan will be a presidential republic, where Parliament will, however, retain the right to endorse nominations to ministerial posts.

The president suggested that the fundamental law be debated nationwide with a constitutional commission to put the final touches to the draft for its subsequent adoption by the Parliament at its current session.

Speaking about the political pluralism guaranteed by the new constitution, President Nazarbayev noted that such unregistered parties as "Alash", "Zheltoxan", and the Cossack Movement had been provoking instability in society. Over the last year, they've staged in the capital Alma Ata about 130 unsanctioned rallies. The president proposed that their leaders be held responsible.

Nazarbayev on Armenian Attacks on Nakhichevan

NC2905185992 Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 23 May 92 p 24

[Dogan Uluc report: "Karabakh Belongs to Azerbaijan. It Must Be Defended"]

[Text] Nursultan Nazarbayev has said that the Armenian attacks on the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR] cannot be justified, noting that Karabakh belongs to Azerbaijan and that it must be defended.

Nazarbayev arrived in New York after meeting with President Bush in Washington. Replying to a question on the Azerbaijan-Armenia dispute, he said: "Nothing can justify the Armenian attacks on the NAR. Reports indicate that Armenians have used chemical arms in their attacks, which indicates that the dispute is growing. It indicates that it is assuming dangerous proportions."

Nazarbayev was asked what Kazakhstan, another Turkic-Islamic republic, thinks about the Azerbaijan-Armenia dispute. He replied: "Kazakhstan's relations with Turkey are very good. I visited Turkey and met with Prime Minister Demirel, and we signed several agreements. We were amazed by Turkey's economic achievements. Karabakh belongs to Azerbaijan, but the Armenians see the matter differently. Foreign forces must not get involved in the dispute. Foreign countries must not support either side. The United Nations must take initiatives to find a peaceful solution to the problem as soon as possible. Interethnic disputes are the most difficult to resolve because their roots are buried in history. An interethnic dispute is difficult to suppress. This is why the United Nations must prevent the outbreak of interethnic disputes. I have already explained my opinion on the matter to UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali."

Nazarbayev Speaks on Future Use of Baykonur

PM2505085392 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 92 p 1

[Report by correspondent Ye. Ovcharenko: "Shuttles Will Be Received at Baykonur"]

[Text] New York—Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev has held at press conference at the United Nations. The day before, he signed in Washington, together with President Bush, four documents. In addition, three intergovernment agreements were concluded. There was a large oil deal. So, the results of the visit by this member of the "presidents' club" are great.

I asked President Nazarbayev whether during his meeting with U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney they had touched on the question of aid to Kazakhstan from the United States in creating a national army.

Answering KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA's questions, the president said:

"You know that the decision has been made to create a Kazakhstan army. We may need to have consultations. It is a case of an army of sufficient defense capacity. We shall consult, however, not only the United States but also, of course, the Russian Defense Ministry and the CIS Joint Armed Forces General Staff.

"During my talks with Cheney there was a discussion of a number of existing opportunities. For instance, the long-term avenues of technical cooperation. Since activity has ceased at the nuclear testing range, potential interesting technical decisions have remained—for instance decisions which could ensure the safety of nuclear thermal devices or nuclear space engines developed by Soviet scientists. The Americans are also working in this direction, so why should we not pool our efforts?

"As for the Baykonur testing ranges—they could perfectly well be used as spare airfields for the reusable Shuttles."

[Ovcharenko] "In your opinion, is it necessary to divide up the property of the USSR and, if so, how should this be done?"

[Nazarbayev] "I have said, and I repeat, that all problems must be approached in a civilized way. Moscow, the

cosmodromes, the fleets, were built by everyone together. We must use all this together, irrespective of whose territory it is on.

"As for property abroad, when our representative came to Washington, he had no problems finding room at the Russian Embassy."

Tereshchenko Receives Malaysian Foreign Minister

LD2505061192 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 22 May 92

[Text] Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko today received Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, who is in Alma-Ata for an official visit. During their conversation they discussed specific opportunities for establishing bilateral cooperation. The head of government issued an invitation to open a Malaysian trade mission in the capital of Kazakhstan, exchange business delegations, cooperate in training cadres, and set up joint enterprises in the area of small and medium-size business. The Malaysian minister stated that he would make every effort to get the businesspeople of his country interested in strengthening economic contacts with Kazakhstan, in particular in organizing a (?specially designated) base for joint enterprises for seeking and exploiting oil and gas deposits.

The sides agreed, on the basis of already existing agreements between the former USSR and Malaysia, to formulate and sign new treaties at the government level, taking contemporary realities into consideration. The visa system will be simplified on a reciprocal basis to make it easier to exchange delegations.

It was stressed that the accords which have been reached must quickly be turned into practical actions.

Kazakhstan To Import Chinese Sugar in 1992

LD2505135392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] An accord has been reached between Kazakhstan and the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of the PRC on the delivery to Kazakhstan of 150,000 tonnes of Chinese sugar this year.

It will arrive across the recently opened Druzhba [Friendship] border railway crossing. This is reported by the RIKA agency.

News Agency Begins Operating in Alma-Ata

LD2105110692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1103 GMT 20 May 92

[By KAZTAG correspondent Sara Mustafina for ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Alma-Ata, May 20—The new republican advertising and news agency DARIA-PRESS began working in the Kazakh capital from Wednesday [20 May]. It is sponsored by the Kazakh Journalists Union. Its purposes are exchange of information between Russian-language and national media, the setting up of advertising network and the establishment of ties with Kazakh communities in the territory of the CIS, in Turkey, Afghanistan, China and Western Europe.

Kyrgyztan

President Takes Control of Troops on Territory

LD3005223792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 30 May 92

[Report by "independent news agency EVRO-AZIA" reporter Aleksandr Knyazev]

[Text] Kyrgyzstan President Askar Akayev signed a decree late on the night of 29 May transferring all the armed units and detachments stationed on its territory under the republic's jurisdiction. Aleksandr Knyazev has the details:

[Knyazev] Can the president's decree really be implemented? This can be illustrated by the mood prevailing in the Bishkek 282 Guard Regiment. The regiment is part of the Panfilov Division, which until now was part of the 40th Army, known for its Afghan past. The majority of the army is stationed in Kazakhstan and was transferred to the jurisdiction of Kazakhstan by Nazarbayev's decree as far back as March.

At the Tashkent summit of heads of state of the Commonwealth, Russia proposed that Kyrgyzstan sort out matters with the division by 1 June. It looks like matters have been sorted out.

Officers of the 282 Regiment predicted the following: With the transfer of the units to the republic's jurisdiction, its leadership might begin selling military equipment and arms to customers outside the CIS, in the footsteps of Turkmenistan. It is most unlikely that this is in Kyrgyzstan's interests. There are 12 disputed territorial issues with neighboring China alone. There also are some with Tajikistan, and there are territorial problems in the border zone in the region of Badken and Isfara. In Uzbekistan there are certain forces which are raising the question of returning the Kyrgyz towns of Osh, Uzgen, Dzhalal-Abad, and Karavan to Tashkent. Not everything is peaceful on the borber between Kyrgyzstan's Talas Oblast and Kazakhstan's Dzhambul Oblast.

The mass of contradictions of territorial claims and counterclaims among the republics is large and complicated enough. It is a good thing that the presidents have reached an agreement among themselves and are signing declarations on the inviolability of borders, but a good landlord would not sell arms; rather he would stock them.

Yesterday's decree has provoked another problem. According to the commander of the 282 Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Nikolay Dimov, the mood prevailing

among the officers and warrant officers is such that the vast majority of them—Russians first and foremost—have firmly decided not to swear an oath of allegiance to Kyrgyzstan. They are more worried about the issue of whether it will be possible to be transferred to Russia to continue service there. This a question that most likely should not be addressed to the Kyrgyzstan leadership.

Defense Committee Assumes Control

LD0106103692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] In Kyrgyzstan, President Askar Akayev has decreed that the republic will assume ownership of all military units stationed within its borders as of 1 June. Control over them has been entrusted to the Kyrgyzstan State Committee on Defense. As of today, financial, logistical, and pension provision for servicemen will be made from the republican budget. The government has been instructed to draft a military and defense concept and law on armed units within the republic by 1 August. It has also been instructed to submit proposals for phased troop reductions. This was an INTERFAX report.

Akayev on Quake, CIS, Islamic Fundamentalism

OW0106120692 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1800 GMT 21 May 92

[Interview with President Askar Akayev in his office in Bishkek by Vladimir Fedorov; from the "Utro" program; dtae not given—recorded]

[Text] [Fedorov] Askar Akayevich, you have just returned from your emergency trip to the earthquake disaster zone in Dzhelal-abad Oblast. What is the scale of the devastation?

[Akayev] At present approximately 6000 families—that is 50,000 people, 40 to 50,000 people—are left without a roof over their head. The houses—and you, Vladimir Georgiyevich, are very well acquainted with them—were built from adobe without a strong foundation. They literally grew from the earth. That is why they could not sustain such a powerful onslaught of torrential rains (?which caused them to sag). The earthquake came, and literally they all crumbled like houses of cards. The trouble is these torrential rains were so powerful they washed away practically half the city of Karasu in the Osh Oblast. The people were left literally with nothing—without clothing, without food. It was apparently impossible to save anything inasmuch as a meters-deep layer of water literally swept everything in its path—houses, dams, huge trees. In a word, the misfortune is one of huge proportions. The one consolation is that no human lives were lost. Only four people were injured by the earthquake, and inasmuch as all this occurred during the in day, during working hours when people were in the fields and out of their houses—in a work environment as such—it all happened without large scale human losses. Of course, the agricultural economy in the south has suffered huge losses, with early estimates put at 1.5 billion rubles. In a word, the specialists assess the damage to the agricultural economy, and the workers in the Osh and the Dzhalal-abad Oblasts, at approximately 2.5 billion rubles.

[Fedorov] In the past in such a situation one could depend on the common union money box. How is it now?

[Akayev] Indeed in the past, when such misfortune befell one of the republics or some region, the whole country came to its aid. Today every CIS country struggles on its own with its own misfortunes and problems. Nevertheless, we hope CIS countries will help us. What sort of aid do I envisage? Of course I am not naive and do not reckon that as in the past some kind of supplementary resources will be mobilized, or that free assistance on a sufficiently large scale will be rendered. I envisage that if our brother CIS countries deliver that which is in our agreements on time—building materials and particularly timber, POL [petroleum-oil-lubricants] products, oil products, gas, food, and medicines which have been stipulated in our two sided and multi sided agreements—we will consider it as aid.

[Fedorov] Your absence from Tashkent raised questions in many minds. It is known you were in China, but nevertheless some shadow of doubt remains. It is also known you have been somewhat disappointed recently with the state of the Commonwealth.

[Akayev] We are fated to be in the Commonwealth, this must be understood. Today we cannot join either the West or the East. We do have good intentions to somehow join the international community, particularly the international economic community. But when we carefully examine the international economic and political community in the West and the East, we can see that today we are simply not ready for this. Besides, we need time; we need five or 10 years before we will be ready on a competitive basis and as worthy, equal partners to join the Western or the Eastern economic community. Debating it soberly, I simply consider that in the nineties—in this decade—we are fated to be in the Commonwealth. Therefore I see our sole task as strengthening this Commonwealth, and our position in this regard is unchangeable. As far as my preoccupation is concerned, it stems from not being able to develop mechanisms which would give efficacy to our agreements. Time after time we gather to sign and adopt good documents; however, they do not work! If there are no mechanisms to actively carry them out, then of course the people feel disappointment.

[Fedorov] Do you share the widely current opinion that Russia, to some degree, is losing its position in Central Asia, particularly in Kyrgyzstan?

[Akayev] There is a modicum of truth in this. However, in fact, I do not think this is a consequence of Russian policy. It is not a consequence of a mistaken orientation

of the Russian Government. No, it is simply that today Russia is experiencing colossal difficulties. To use the language of physicists, we still are connected vessels, and of course I would say that the success of reforms in all CIS countries to a significant degree depends on the success of reforms in Russia.

[Fedorov] In Kyrgyzstan, it is generally accepted that the Islamic factor is not a strong force. Is there an underestimation here?

[Akayev] I dare say there is an underestimation by those who consider that there is no such danger at present. I have always said that we have to be on the alert. We can see to what catastrophic consequences underestimation of religious extremism can lead to, and speaking of our region in particular, it is Islamic fundamentalism. I always express myself very clearly and say that we must not allow expansion of fundamentalism. That is a path to regression.

[Fedorov] On what premise do you think the former leaders of the Kyrgyz Communist Party—the first secretaries, the so-called red commanders—are taking up the vacancies in parliament and are they exploiting the social and economic complexities, nationalism, or just the passivity of the people?

[Akayev] I think that, on the whole, you have named all the basic preconditions upon which these very same former red commanders—I would say orthodox communists—are replenishing our Supreme Soviet today. When the new Social Movement Party raised the issue of dissolution of parliament, I warned them that under no circumstances should they do that at present, because our newly created parties do not the public's support. But they do not sense this. Today, they do not have that public support, that social strata upon which they should rest. These are groups of some hundreds, at most thousands, of people who are trying to organize a party, a movement, but as yet they can not stand on their own two feet and do not have that public support. And here...

[Fedorov, interrupting] A meeting can be organized, but organizing life is complicated, right?

[Akayev] Yes, a meeting is easy to organize; indeed, a few hundred people is quite sufficient for this, but not one of the representatives of the new democratic movements and parties has yet won a seat in the Supreme Soviet today.

[Fedorov] In what context do you place your understanding of the people of Kyrgyzstan?

[Akayev] The people of Kyrgyzstan are people representing all of the 80 nationalities that live on the territory of Kyrgyzstan. You, Vladimir Georgiyevich, have raised a very good question. In this regard, I would like to express my concern that in recent times, our boat—that is how I would figuratively call Kyrgyzstan—our boat, in the large ocean of human civilization, is a very small boat: four and a half million people. Our boat is today being rocked by various newly formed parties, movements, and representatives of separate national cultural centers. We are always striving for them to find accord among themselves; as you know, I have put the main goal of achieving peace and interminority harmony before the government and the people of Kyrgyzstan—for without it, we will not be able to come out of the present economic, spiritual, and all other types of crises.

President Urges Stability in Ethnic Relations

OW2905203092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1858 GMT 29 May 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Friday [29 May] President Askar Akayev held "a round table" meeting with participation of all national and cultural centers of the republic, which in his opinion, can help preserve stability in ethnic relations.

The president noted that it is necessary to openly recognize the growing nationalistic sentiments in the republic. The republican press publishes statements by nationalists who are creating ethnic hostility, received by all ethnic minorities with pain. The government is concerned about the growing emigration of Germans and Russians from the republic. Leaflets stirring up ethnic conflicts are also a very troublesome problem.

Akayev believes it is necessary to rule out migration infringing upon the national feelings and rights of citizens. He pointed out that all these processing are going on against the backward of accute socioeconomic crisis fraught with a serious social conflict. The president confirmed adherence to the ethnic policy guaranteeing the rights and freedoms to ethnic minorities in Kyrgyzstan. "I am convinced that none of Kyrgyz citizens who was born on this land will never be a foreigner. The multinational people of Kyrgyzstan has been living for centuries together and has the real possibility to avoid conflicts, retaining the sense of collectivism and solidarity".

The president urged all citizens to be patriots of Kyrgyzstan and to build a democratic society ruled by law and free from nationalism. In his opinion, only under that condition it is possible to raise the economy, improve education system and develop national traditions and culture. Akayev assured that problems of Kyrgyz residents of all nationalities can be resolved in Kyrgyzstan. He said that there is no need to ask the Russian, Uzbek or Ukrainian presidents for help.

Armenia

President Remarks on Nagorno-Karabakh

LD0106123492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1210 GMT 1 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Yelistratov]

[Text] Cairo June 1 TASS—The problem of Nagorno-Karabakh should be settled by peaceful means, by purposeful efforts of the international community which needs to concentrate attention on holding talks in accordance with initiatives by the United Nations and the European Community, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan told the Egyptian newspaper AL-AHRAM today.

Any interference by another state in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict "is fraught with a serious aggravation of the situation in the region." According to Ter-Petrosyan, "confrontation in Nagorno-Karabakh is not of a religious nature and distinguishing between Armenians and Azeris on the grounds of religion does not play any role in solving this problem."

Ter-Petrosyan explained that the corridor from Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia running via Azerbaijan's territory was created exclusively to alleviate the disastrous position of the people in Nagorno-Karabakh who cannot engage in agriculture and suffer from food and medicine shortages. "Neither Armenia nor the population of Nagorno-Karabakh have an intention to seize more lands than is necessary for normal communication between the republics," Ter-Petrosyan added.

He believes a peace settlement of the conflict around Nagorno-Karabakh should proceed in two stages.

At the first stage, efforts should be aimed at protecting the local population by deploying UN peacekeepers along the republic's entire border with Azerbaijan and establishing the international community's control over the safety of the land corridor linking Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia.

At the second stage, an international conference on this problem should be organised. Talks on dispelling the crisis should involve representatives of the Conference on Security and Cooperaiton in Europe (CSCE) and the authorities of Nagorno-Karabakh. This dialogue should discuss problems of defining forms of government in Nagorno-Karabakh, refugees, specific issues of compensating for the damage wrought and prisoner exchange.

Russian Role in Conflict, Arms Transfer Viewed

MK2905154392 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 May 92 p 3

[Liana Minasyan report under "Armenia" rubric: "'Russian Military Benefits From Source of Tension in Karabakh.' Yerevan Protests Transfer of Army Weapons to Azerbaijan"]

[Text] As Armenian parliamentary deputy Suren Zolyan, secretary of the Supreme Soviet Commission for Artsakh [Karabakh], told your NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent, Yerevan is concerned at the fact that a few days ago a significant quantity of equipment and arms—artillery and tank regiments in Baku and a motorized rifle regiment in Astara—were transferred to the Azerbaijani Army. In addition, the redeployment of Russian troops in Leninkoranskiy Rayon is giving rise to the suspicion that this could lead to the capture of the large district weapons dump, as happened in Agdam. As is well known, high-ranking Russian military personnel have attributed the Agdam incident to the fact that the dump was being guarded by negligible forces.

This is happening despite the Russian representatives' official statements that troop hardware and ammunition will not be transferred by the military at their own discretion because this is a political problem and thus must be resolved at talks by the Russian Foreign Ministry and the Russian Government, but not the Defense Ministry. The military may only act as experts here, as Armenia and the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic delegation have been told many times. Zolyan cited the statement by Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev, Russian deputy foreign minister, in Yerevan and before that at the beginning of May in Moscow at a meeting with Nagorno-Karabakh Republic representatives to the effect that the Russian Government will settle questions of this sort solely through the Foreign Ministry and will not allow the military to create new political situations. It has been said in Yerevan that since Azerbaijan has no treaty with Russia, the troops will be withdrawn from there along with all their weapons. This problem was raised by Yerevan after the transfer to the Azerbaijani Army of a part of the Caspian Flotilla (the guns removed from its ships are now firing on Mardakert). After that incident the Russian Foreign Ministry gave an assurance that there had been "slip ups" here and that such situations will not recur. To be blunt, the military stand to gain from having a constant source of tension in Karabakh, Zolyan said.

Assessing the Russian Foreign Ministry's statement on Karabakh, Suren Zolyan noted that recent events are part of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic problem and any other approach—to wit, accusations against Armenia—effectively means recognizing Nagorno-Karabakh as part of it. Nevertheless this is a political statement which raised the questions of security and the cessation of hostilities. Consequently, the transfer of 96 tanks to Azerbaijan cannot be viewed as a measure stabilizing the situation. Of course, these tanks (which are not a defensive but an offensive weapon) and the new "Grad" artillery pieces will soon be put to use, a fact which ill accords with the Foreign Ministry's declarations and statements. The prospects for Russian mediation in this situation are unclear, which goes not only for mediation but also for the Russian-Armenian treaty, as yet unratified by the parliaments, which presupposes certain mutual commitments. In addition there are also the

military treaty of the "six" and the recommendations of the CSCE Senior Officials' Committee banning the supply of weapons to warring sides in the region. The transfer of weapons completely contravenes both the spirit and letter of those accords: One side is being armed without any control. Following the Russian Government's logic, according to treaties intended to counter aggression it is obliged to protect Armenia against the weapons which it itself is providing, the Armenian deputy said in conclusion.

CIS Troops Said To Give Azeris Tanks, Systems

LD2905143392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1315 GMT 29 May 92

[By ARMENPRESS correspondent Aleksandr Grigoryan for TASS]

[Text] Yerevan, 29 May—While it is relatively calm on the Armenian-Nakhichevan border today, in other areas of the border region Azerbiajani artillery is continuing to shell Armenian settlements. Official circles of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic believe that tension in the region may rise as the elections scheduled for 7 June in Azerbiajan draws nearer.

In particular, people in Nagorno-Karabakh are seriously concerned that the CIS troops have passed on to the Azeri Army more than 100 tanks, about 50 artillery mounts, including the "Grad" systems, and also the district dumps of the Transcaucasian Military District in Azerbaijan's Lenkoranskiy rayon.

Wreckage of Crashed Military Helicopter Found

LD3005172892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1623 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 30 May—This morning the wreckage of a crashed military helicopter was found close to the village of Areni of Yekhegnadzorskiy Rayon in Armenia. This is stated in a report by the staff of the chief advisor to the republic's president on questions of national security, transmitted by Yerevan radio. There was no crew at the site of the helicopter crash, the report notes. An investigation is being carried out. A duty officer of the 7th Guards Army told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that the stricken helicopter did not belong to any of the units of this troop formation stationed on Armenian territory.

Adviser Confirms Support for Iranian Observers

LD0106003992 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1800 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Armenia stands for the continuation of Iran's efforts to mediate the Armenian-Azeri conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh. An Armenian presidential security advisor, Ashot Manucharyan, at a meeting with the Iranian Charge d'Affaires in Yerevan, Bahram Qasemi, confirmed the willingness of his country to see Iranian observers on the border with Azerbaijan.

UK Official Brings Humanitarian Aid

LD3005163992 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1300 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] SNARK News Agency reports today that Caroline Cox, deputy leader of the British House of Lords [position as heard], has arrived in Stepanakert. Travelling through the humanitarian corridor between Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia, she has brought aid amounting to the sum of $200,000, acquired from the international organization Christian Solidarity. She has also brought solar batteries and medicine. In an interview with an Armenian television correspondent, Lady Cox noted: The Karabakh people had to open the humanitarian corridor because they were facing a real threat of starvation and physical extermination.

IMF Membership Announcement Circulated

LD3005211592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1624 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Lebedev]

[Text] Washington, 30 May—Armenia has become a member of the International Monetary Fund. It is stated in an announcement circulated today by this major international financial and economic organization that Aleksandr Arzumanyan, permanent Armenian representative to the United Nations, signed on behalf of the republic under the articles of the International Monetary Fund agreement.

The fund management council determined the initial quota for Armenia as approximately $127 million. With the entry of Armenia to the IMF, membership in the body has now reached 163 countries.

Azerbaijan

Acting President on People's Front Policy

PM2905153092 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 May 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Isa Kamberov, chairman of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet and acting president, by correspondents G. Ivanov-Smolenskiy and V. Samedov in Baku; date not given: "Isa Kamberov: Azerbaijan Must Become a Democratic, Secular State"]

[Text] After the dramatic events of 14-15 May, when the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet returned Ayaz Mutalibov to power for 24 hours, 35-year-old Isa Kamberov, one of the leaders of the People's Front and an orientalist by education, became chairman of parliament. Under the Constitution, he is acting president of the republic until the 7 June elections. IZVESTIYA's correspondents

talked with I. Kamberov about the situation in Azerbaijan today and the prospects for its development.

[IZVESTIYA] One often hears it said that, since the legitimately elected President Ayaz Mutalibov gave up his post 6 March under pressure from supporters of the Azerbaijan People's Front, the present authorities are not legitimate...

[Kamberov] I do not think Azerbaijan has had such legitimate authorities as ours since the time of Sovietization. And I hope that after the 7 June elections this legitimacy will be recognized by the whole world.

[IZVESTIYA] What, in your view, were the main mistakes made by Mutalibov and the parliament of "communist recruits" which lost them their social base and support in Azerbaijani society?

[Kamberov] The authorities did nothing to put their declarations into practice. They relied on external forces and therefore could not bring about an end to Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan either through peaceful talks, or by means of stepping up military might. Finally, they failed to choose real allies. I think the former leadership only considered one thing: how to go on as long as possible exploiting their official privileges.

[IZVESTIYA] One often hears it said in Baku that, having come to power, representatives of the People's Front will not be able to hold out for more than a few months, because the state power structures in the republic have been wrecked. They, the political romantics, will be replaced by pragmatists—representatives of the business world...

[Kamberov] I believe that in the near future the People's Front and these pragmatists, if they exist, will find each other and will work together. I do not think we are in danger of losing power soon, we are working cautiously and trying to preserve the experience accumulated by previous representatives of the apparatus. We do not have much experience of managing the national economy, but I think we have enough experience of political work.

[IZVESTIYA] Please tell us, what are the main points of the People's Front program, with which it intends to establish itself firmly in power?

[Kamberov] The main task is to stabilize the situation in the republic as quickly as possible. The very first steps, naturally, will be taken with a view to stopping Armenia's aggression. There will then be far more chance of implementing radical economic and political reforms.

We made our objectives public long ago: to build in Azerbaijan a rule-of-law, democratic, secular state. We will seek to move more rapidly to a market economy. We will also pursue a foreign and domestic policy based on the UN and CSCE principles.

[IZVESTIYA] Undoubtedly the main issue for Azerbaijan now is Karabakh. How do you see the real way out of the impasse that has arisen as a result of the war?

[Kamberov] Azerbaijan had no concrete policy here—either diplomatically or militarily. We intend to persuade the world community to condemn Armenia as the aggressor and to bring into play the mechanisms of coercion against an aggressor stipulated, in particular, in the UN Charter. Our approaches to solving the Karabakh conflict are clear and simple. They are the inviolability of borders and observance of the rights of national minorities.

[IZVESTIYA] In connection with today's relations between Azerbaijan and Armenia, one hears increasingly frequently that they have reached the stage of "Lebanization." If the Karabakh question is eventually resolved, will it be possible, in your view, for Armenians and Azerbaijanis to coexist peacefully in border regions, at the level of daily life? Especially since people in the region have a great many weapons in their possession.

[Kamberov] The normalization of human relations will, I think, take quite a long time. There have been similar situations before in the history of relations between Azerbaijanis and Armenians, but nonetheless those relations have been normalized. I believe it is possible this time too. Especially when we feel that we are real independent states, members of the international community.

[IZVESTIYA] If Nagorno-Karabakh is restored to Azerbaijan, will it be possible, in your view, to guarantee the rights of the Armenian population there?

[Kamberov] I think so. In particular if Armenia allows Azerbaijanis to return to places on its territory that have a high Azerbaijani population concentration, and if they are granted the same status as the Armenians in Karabakh. In any case, I see no alternative to the reasonable resolution of the Karabakh question. The war could drag on for years. But it will be ruinous to both sides. Sooner or later Armenia will have to agree to terms satisfactory to both sides.

[IZVESTIYA] How do you see the basic principles of Azerbaijan's foreign policy? In particular, relations with the CIS.

[Kamberov] Ideally we would like to have equal relations with all states, and especially with our neighbors. We even wanted to make Transcaucasia a demilitarized region. Today our choice will be made in favor of whatever force adopts the most just stance on the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

As for joining any particular bloc, such as the CIS or the Treaty on Collective Security, we must have real guarantees of help in resolving the Karabakh conflict. We would also like to have serious bilateral relations with Russia.

Kamberov Interviewed on National Issues

NC2905162392 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish 23 May 92 p 8

["Exclusive" interview with Isa Kamberov, acting president and Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet chairman, by CUMHURIYET correspondent Hicran Oge Goltz in Baku; date not given]

[Text] [Goltz] What are the priority objectives of the new Azerbaijani administration?

[Kamberov] The president, the prime minister, the governors, the judges, and the police force have never been active here. As a result, lawlessness prevailed. No one was concerned about the war or citizens' rights. We are working to establish control over the situation. Those who work will be allowed to stay on. Those who do not, will be discharged and replaced.

[Goltz] Etibar Mamedov has made serious accusations against the Azerbaijan Popular Front [APF]. Can you comment on this issue?

[Kamberov] The APF can reply. I do not believe that the government should reply to him. The APF can only be happy to have a strong person like Mamedov among the opposition.

[Goltz] Do you plan to take measures against the armed groups in the republic?

[Kamberov] We are trying to establish control in every corner of the republic, starting with Baku. Measures are being implemented and firearms are being collected. We will move to broaden our control to the other parts of Azerbaijan. The armed groups will be included within the state; that is, they will be affiliated with either the Ministry of Defense or the Ministry of Internal Affairs. If they fail to agree to this, their arms will be impounded.

[Goltz] The Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR] has been the target of Armenian attacks since the beginning of May. Have you asked Turkey for support?

[Kamberov] Aliyev is the head of the NAR. Of course, we will work in the same direction. Unity will exist. The tense atmosphere, which has emerged between Nakhichevan and Baku recently, has to be removed. The tension must not be ignored.

Armenia's attacks on the NAR stem from Armenia's wish to broaden the fighting in the region. The Armenians are aware that the Kars Treaty allows Turkey to deploy military units in the NAR. They are trying to force Turkey to do so. Once this happens, Russia will intervene and a significant dispute will be created. I am definitely opposed to broadening the clashes, and we are making diplomatic initiatives on the matter.

Our objective is to maintain Azerbaijan's territorial integrity. We intend to make every diplomatic initiative possible to achieve this objective. I wish to reiterate, however, that the negotiating process may take a long time, maybe even years. However, Azerbaijan will not make any concession on land. It will not allow its territorial integrity to be disrupted. Nor will it allow any part of its territory to be taken away.

[Goltz] Will elections be held on 7 June?

[Kamberov] Definitely.

Tofik Kasumov Appointed Foreign Minister

NC2905183192 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Isa Kamberov, acting president and chairman of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet, issued a decree appointing Tofik Kasumov foreign minister of Azerbaijan. The decree will be submitted to the Azerbaijani National Council for debate.

Kamberov also issued a decree removing Guseynaga Sadkykhov as foreign minister because he has been appointed to another post.

Decree Issued on Militia's Right To Search

LD2905223792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Our Baku correspondent Azer Khalilov reports that the acting president and chairman of the republic has issued a decree appointing a foreign minister of Azerbaijan. He is Tofik Gasymov, a people's deputy and chairman of the standing commission on state construction.

Another decree has given the republic's militia the right to search apartments, vehicles, transport facilities, and citizens on the streets or on residential premises without the sanction of the Procuracy.

Our correspondent also reports that military personnel carrying out such searches have been given the right to arrest and detain those who resist for 30 days. In the case of armed resistance, they are authorized to shoot the offenders dead on the spot.

Soviet Regulations To Be Used in Armed Forces

OW3105123992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1222 GMT 31 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of the Azeri parliament and the acting president of the republic, Isa Kamberov, has signed a decree ordering the Azeri armed forces to abide by the service regulations of the armed forces of the former USSR before Azeri regulations are approved. He instructs the Defense, Interior and National Security ministries to coordinate their measures to prevent violations of law and discipline in the Azeri forces.

Another decree signed by Kamberov puts the Baku municipal police within the jurisdiction of the Interior Ministry in order to put all bodies fighting crime under centralized control.

Surrender of Unregistered Weapons Urged

OW3105123892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1221 GMT 31 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Azerbaijan's Defence Minister Ragim Kaziyev urged the population to surrender the unregistered weapons by June 1, and called on the deserters from the Armenian-Azeri front to return to their units. He warned the population over radio that the citizens neglecting the military-related directives of the new leadership "will not go unpunished".

Elchibey on National Front's Policy, Goals

TA3005183892 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1600 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Azerbaijan National Front [ANF] leader Ebulfez Elchibey has said that the most important problem the country is facing is the structure of the state.

Speaking at the Azerbaijani Television, Elchibey expressed the ANF's allegiance to the principles of pluralistic democracy, the supremacy of law, and human rights.

Elchibey said that the ANF's main goal is the separation of authority in the state administration.

Elchibey concluded by calling for an international solution to the issues of Karabakh and border violations.

Interior Minister Comments on 'New Decisions'

TA2905184892 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 29 May 92

[Erturk Ondem report from Baku]

[Text] Today, Azerbaijani television broadcast all of the live Turkish Radio and Television coverage on the opening yesterday of the Bridge of Hope between Turkey and Nakhichevan. The papers published here today gave wide coverage to the ceremonies.

Iskender Khamidov, Azerbaijani interior minister and right hand of Popular Front leader Ebulfez Elchibey, replied to our questions in connection with the issue.

[Begin Khamidov recording] As Mr. Demirel said, the name of the bridge is Hope. I am convinced that it will fulfill many hopes, Turkey's hopes and our hopes. [end recording]

Interior Minister Khamidov said that the situation in the fronts has been calm for the past two days but that there are strong chances of a renewed Armenian attack. New decisions have been made, he said, to ensure discipline in the fronts and they will be implemented immediately. We will punish especially deserters and those who mistreat the people, he added.

Khamidov also said that foreign journalists and television teams will not be able to visit the front without a permit from the Interior Ministry.

Gendzha Special Defense Headquarters Disbanded

NC2905205692 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Isa Kamberov, acting president and Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet chairman, has issued the following instruction in connection with the closure of the Special Defense Headquarters in Gendzha City:

To legalize the activities of the armed groups in Azerbaijan; establish a united leadership and administration for the armed forces; and strengthen military discipline, organization, and [word indistinct], I have decided the following:

1. The special defense headquarters in Gendzha City, which has been illegally established within the framework of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces, be disbanded by 1 June 1992.

2. The arms, technical equipment, and material and financial resources which belong to the Special Defense Headquarters and its departments in Gendzha City be transferred to the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry so that they can be used in accordance with the needs of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces.

The Azerbaijani defense minister include the expert officers, [word indistinct], and servicemen affiliated with the Special Defense Headquarters and its departments in Gendzha City within the framework of the legal Armed Forces under his jurisdiction.

3. The Azerbaijani minister of internal affairs and minister of national security provide practical support for the head of the Gendzha City executive authority in disbanding the Special Defense Headquarters and place the military units affiliated with it within the structure of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces.

4. The Azerbaijani defense minister and minister of internal affairs and the head of the Gendzha City executive authority be held responsible for the implementation of this instruction.

Former Editor Appointed New Envoy To Russia

OW2905150192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1420 GMT 29 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Khikmet Gadzhi-zade, who was recently appointed a new plenipotentiary representative of Azerbaijan to Moscow, said that his main aim is the establishing of diplomatic relations between Russia and Azerbaijan, the transformation of the mission into an embassy, and setting up of the Azeri-Russian cooperation on the basis of equality, sincerity and mutual benefit.

In his interview with "IF" [INTERFAX] in Baku before his departure for Moscow Gadzhi-zade noted that Azerbaijan will pursue a policy of "open doors" towards Russia. Nevertheless he underlined that until now the republic was guided extremely by Russia and it is necessary to do away with this absence of balance in its foreign policy.

Azerbaijan intends to develop relations with Baltic states, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, and with the southern neighbors.

37-year old Khikmet Gadzhi-zade, a candidate of physical-mathematical sciences, was an editor of the Popular Front of Azerbaijan's newspaper "Freedom" before he was appointed the Azeri plenipotentiary representative to Russia.

Deputy Says Russia Freezes Bank Deposits

LD0106042992 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] According to ASSA-IRADA agency reports, Armenian military formations continue to violate Azerbaijan's state border. Nakhichevan was also tense last night. A considerable concentration of military equipment is apparent in Sisianskiy Rayon in Armenia.

According to Nuriyev, an Azerbaijani people's deputy, Russia is placing financial pressure on the republic. Accounts in Russia's banks have been frozen for an entire week.

Armenian Chemical Weapons Use Reported

PM0106100192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 May 92 p 2

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel O. Vladykin under the general heading "May Came, and There Was a War. Armenia-Azerbaijan Front Through the Eyes of Our Correspondents": "View From Azerbaijan"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The other day the public was shaken by a terrifying press report—Armenian formations are using chemical weapons in the war in Nagorno-Karabakh. We tried to verify this.

Among the doctors at the Baku Central Military Hospital are surgeons who removed a capsule containing a chemical agent from the body of a severely wounded soldier in Shusha. Lieutenant Colonel of the Medical Service Nikolay Nikitin, chief of the Anesthesiology and Resuscitation Department, told us in detail how he had unexpectedly experienced the effects of this chemical agent. While examining the capsule rmeoved from the wound and which had apparently hit the serviceman when a canister shell [snaryad-konteyner] exploded, the doctor accidentally tore his surgical glove. He immediately felt a strong burning sensation in his finger, and then his tissue went numb. He was burned in the area where he had come into contact with the agent. The wounded man—Fazil Dzhafarov, who was miraculously saved by the doctors—told us the following. Hit on the battlefield, he very quickly started losing any feeling around his wounded shoulder and, subsequently, down his entire left side.

There have long been rumors to the effect that Armenian gunmen were using chemical agents. But this is the first time that material proof of the use of these barbaric weapons in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict has fallen into doctors' hands. Chemical analysis has shown that the capsule contained a cyanide compound. Just what other devilish things are being prepared for use by those who do not want to see peace in the Caucasus or the return of good relations between Azerbaijanis and Armenians? What else can we expect from them?

Iranian 'Relief Convoy' Arrives 28 May

LD3005083592 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 29 May 92

[Telephone report by unidentified correspondent in Baku on Iranian "gift convoy" to Azerbaijan—recorded]

[Text] The gifts comprise 7,500 blankets, 123 cartons containing serum, 20 tons of rice, 30 tons of grain, 38,000 tinned fruit and conserves, 1,000 hospital uniforms, and 4,000 sheets. These were handed over by the Red Crescent of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] to officials of the republic of Azerbaijan in Freedom Square in Baku in the presence of the IRI's ambassador to Azerbaijan.

This relief convoy, which entered the Republic of Azerbaijan on this republic's independence anniversary yesterday, was welcomed by the people while going through cities—in Baku as well—and had a deserving reaction from the people and officials. The Republic of Azerbaijan's prime minister's representative praised the fraternal assistance of the IRI, considered the relief to be valuable and vital, and called for it to be continued.

Kamberov Meets With Nagorno-Karabakh Refugees

LD2905225992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1838 GMT 29 May 92

[By AZERINFORM correspondent Anar Kadirliy for TASS]

[Text] Baku May 29 TASS—A major task of the Azeri leadership is to take care of people, who have lost their homes after being driven away from their native lands in

Nagorno-Karabakh and areas bordering Armenia, republican Supreme Soviet chairman, carrying out the authority of the Azeri president, Isa Kamberov confirmed today at a meeting with refugees.

Speaking on the social-political situation in the region, the Azeri parliament head stressed the need for strictly observation the lawfulness and order by all republican citizens and strict discipline in the units of the national Army.

It was because of the absence of the single command and of clear information from the conflict zone and provocations on part of some groups that the Azeri side had some defeats, said Kamberov.

10 Hostages Exchanged in Nagorno-Karabakh

LD2905154792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 29 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] An exchange of 10 hostages took place with the mediation of the International Red Cross in Nagorno-Karabakh today. According to information from the Internal Affairs Ministry of Nagorno-Karabakh, 50 more Armenian hostages remain in Baku.

Defense Ministry Details Battle Reports

For 28-29 May

NC2905190292 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry provided the following report today:

Zangenlanskiy Rayon: An Armenian armed forces unit violated Azerbaijan's state border at 0730 on 28 May. The unit penetrated Zangelanskiy Rayon territory and fired various types of weapons at Seidlyar, Agkend, Kazanchi, Agbid, and Gunkyshlakh. Azerbaijani Armed Forces returned fire, and fighting continued throughout the day. The clashes died down at approximately 0330 on 29 May, and the enemy was ultimately evicted from Azerbaijan's territory.

Kubatlinskiy and Lachinskiy Rayons: (Novly) and [word indistinct] were hit with artillery and PDM [expansion unknown] fire from the direction of Kornidzor, (Tep), and Khndzoresk in Armenia's Gorisskiy Rayon from 2000 on 28 May until 0200 this morning. There were no casualties. Birebir and Saf'yan in Lachinskiy Rayon were hit with artillery and rocket fire from (Tep) and Kornidzor in Gorisskiy Rayon. The enemy fire was returned. No one was killed.

Tauzskiy Rayon: The Mindzhukhly area was hit with machine-gun and automatic-weapon fire from the direction of Chinar in Armenia's Shamshadinskiy [Tavushskiy] Rayon from 2300 on 28 May until 0100 this morning. The fire was returned, and the enemy was silenced. No one was killed.

Gorenboyskiy Rayon: Shefek was fired on from the Armenian-inhabited town of Karachinar from 2300 on 27 May until 0200 yesterday morning. The fire was returned, and the enemy was silenced. There were no casualties.

Agdamskiy Rayon: (Kulably) and Abdal were hit with artillery fire and rockets from the direction of Mirashen and Abdyr in the former Agdara Rayon from 1500 on 28 May until 0500 this morning. There were no casualties.

Khodzhavenskiy Rayon: Amiranlar, [name indistinct], and Moghanly were hit with intense fire from Khodzhavend from midnight last night until 0500 this morning. The enemy tried to capture Amiranlar; however, they were given a lesson they will not soon forget and were forced to retreat after losing many men.

The enemy fired on Sadarak with various types of weapons at 1700 on 28 May, after the opening of the bridge between the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR] and Turkey. Two people were wounded. Although Russian and Armenian military units in the Armenian territory withheld their fire for short periods of time, the situation in the NAR region remains tense.

For 29-30 May

NC3005191792 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry Press Center issued the following report today:

Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR]: Sadarak was hit with enemy fire from 1700 on 29 May until 0500 this morning. Two of our fighters were wounded. Poyuz and Kilit in Ordubadskiy Rayon were fired on from tracked vehicles in the (Korkhlar Kharkhad) heights from 1800 yesterday until 0200 this morning. There were no casualties. Khavysh and Yukhary Yayili in Sharur Rayon were hit with automatic-weapon and machine-gun fire from Armenia yesterday and today. The attack is still underway. The enemy also fired on Shada in Shakhbuzskiy Rayon, and one of our militiamen was wounded by an enemy sniper. Clashes in the NAR continue, and Azerbaijani Armed Forces units in the area are returning fire.

Kubatlinskiy Rayon: Elibulushagy was hit with artillery and PDM [expansion unknown] fire from Khndzoresk in Armenia's Gorisskiy Rayon from 1400 to 1500 yesterday. There were no casualties. Azerbaijani Armed Forces units are warding off the enemy attacks.

Gulebriz and Saf'yan in Lachinskiy Rayon were also hit with PDM and artillery fire from the direction of Khndzoresk in Armenia's Gorisskiy Rayon yesterday. The field defense units of the Azerbaijan Armed Forces in Lachinskiy Rayon silenced the enemy's firing positions.

Our forces did not suffer any casualties, and our fighters are continuing to reinforce their positions in Lachinskiy Rayon.

Zangelanskiy Rayon: Seidlyar was hit with automatic-weapon and machine-gun fire from Armenia's Kapanskiy Rayon last night. The enemy's firing positions were silenced, and no casualties have been reported.

Fizulinskiy Rayon: One of the Grad launchers near Gadzhar was destroyed by our units yesterday. Although shots have been heard from the direction of Fizuli, the situation remains relatively calm. Our nation's field defense units have increased their vigilance. Every move of the enemy is being controlled.

Agdamskiy Rayon: Agdam was hit with Grad-type rockets from the direction of Askeran from 0100 to 0500 this morning. No one was killed.

Terterskiy Rayon: Yazichilar and its environs were hit with artillery and rocket fire from the Agdere Rayon from 1600 to 1700 yesterday. One of our fighters was wounded. The fire was returned, and the enemy was silenced.

Gorenboyskiy Rayon: Shefek was hit with missile fire from the Armenian-inhabited town of Karachinar at 2310 last night. Three of our fighters were wounded.

Kazakhskiy Rayon: Ashagy Askipara, Yukhary Askipara, Dzhafarli, Bala Dzhafarli, Medzhan, and Kyzyl Gadzhili were hit with artillery and PDM fire from Armenia's Noyemberyanskiy and Idzhevanskiy Rayons at 0400 this morning. No one was killed. The Azerbaijani Armed Forces in the area returned the fire.

Tauzskiy Rayon: [Word indistinct], Alibeyli, [word indistinct], Agdam, and [word indistinct] were hit hard from Armenia's Shamshadinskiy [Tavushskiy] Rayon from 2330 last night until 0300 this morning. Two of our fighters were wounded. (Emidali) was damaged. The field defense units returned the fire.

For 30-31 May

NC3105190992 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense press center disclosed the following on 31 May:

Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR]: [two names indistinct], Kotal, and Kendedzh Evleri towns in Ordubadskiy Rayon were fired on from Armenia with ZTR's [not further specified], PDM's [not further specified], and missile and Grad launchers at 0500 today. The clashes continued until noon. Three shells fell on Ordubad city. Several buildings were damaged. NAR Ministry of Internal Affairs officials contacted the Armenian officials in Megrinskiy Rayon and warned them that the NAR would take radical measures if the Armenians maintained their fire. The firing stopped after this.

Meanwhile, Sadarak was fired on at brief intervals with ZTR's, PDM's, missile launchers, and machine guns. The situation continues to be tense.

Kubatlinskiy and Lachinskiy rayons: [name indistinct] and Suf'yan towns in Lachinskiy Rayon were fired on last night from Armenia's Gorisskiy Rayon with Grad missiles, artillery, and tracked vehicles. Our fighters waged a strenuous struggle under the intensive enemy fire. Although the situation was difficult, the enemy failed to break the will of our troops. Three of our fighters were wounded.

Yazidizi, Yukhary Dzhibikhli, and Eyim towns in Kubatlinskiy Rayon were fired on yesterday with Grad launchers, artillery, and machine guns. Several other towns bordering Armenia also were fired on. The enemy fire was returned. The uninterrupted exchange of fire continues in Lachinskiy and Kubatlinskiy rayons.

Zangelanskiy Rayon: The situation continues to be tense. Clashes continue around the border towns close to Armenia's Kapanskiy Rayon. Armenian army units tried to set up positions and station artillery units in the Dalga Ortakoy area near Seidlyar. Azerbaijan Armed Forces field defense units warded off the enemy attacks. The situation in the other parts of the rayon is relatively calm.

Dzhebrailskiy Rayon: Three shells fell yesterday on the rayon center. Enemy reinforcements and tracked vehicles have assembled in the direction of Gadrut.

Fizulinskiy Rayon: Karadagly town was fired on from the direction of Gadrut last night. Ozler town was fired on from the direction of Khodzhavend. The situation in the rayon was relatively calm today.

Agdamskiy Rayon: The enemy fired on Kulably, Papravend, Shilli, and [name indistinct] towns with artillery and machine guns last night. Three of our fighters were wounded. The situation in the rayon was relatively calm today, but the Armenians resumed their firing at about 1920.

Terterskiy Rayon: Although shots have been heard from time to time, the situation has been relatively calm in the rayon. Enemy tracked vehicles and armed units have assembled in the Agdere area.

Gorenboyskiy Rayon: Sarikhly and Todan towns were fired on from the Armenian-inhabited Manashid and [name indistinct] towns with ZTR's, Grad launchers, and artillery from 1300 to 1540 today. Shefek town was intensely fired on at 0200 this morning. Our troops have suffered a number of casualties. The enemy fire was returned.

Kazakhskiy Rayon: Kyzyl Gadzhili town was fired on with machine guns and PDM's last night. The firing continued until this morning. One of our fighters was wounded. Bala Dzhafarli, Buyuk Dzhafarli, and Kushchu Ayrum towns were intermittently fired on

during the same period. The Azerbaijan Armed Forces field defense units have warded off the enemy attacks.

Nakhichevan Leader Interviewed on Situation

NC2905142092 Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 20 May 92 p 18

["Exclusive telephone interview" with Nakhichevan Supreme Majlis Chairman Geydar Aliyev by unidentified HURRIYET correspondent on 19 May]

[Text] [HURRIYET] What kind of arms do the Armenians have? Will you be able to maintain your resistance?

[Aliyev] The Armenians have mounted rocket launchers on their tanks. All their arms are Russian, and we have no idea when they got them.

[HURRIYET] Do you ever call Yerevan?

[Aliyev] I called President Ter-Petrosyan today (yesterday) but was unable to contact him. Instead, I talked to Manucharyan, Ter-Petrosyan's adviser. I called for a cease-fire. We are trying to maintain our resistance.

[HURRIYET] Have Turkish officials promised to give Nakhichevan aid?

[Aliyev] Prime Minister Demirel, Deputy Prime Minister Erdal Inonu, and Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin have called us several times. In fact, Cetin called us again a short while ago and told us "not to worry."

[HURRIYET] Have you officially asked for Turkish military aid?

[Aliyev] Not yet. All we want now is for the attacks to stop.

[HURRIYET] How do you view the Kars and Moscow agreements? Can Turkey send military units to Nakhichevan?

[Aliyev] Our opinion is this: If the Nakhichevan Supreme Majlis convenes and calls for military aid, Turkey must comply. We have not yet, however, debated this matter in the assembly.

[HURRIYET] Are you in touch with the parliament in Azerbaijan?

[Aliyev] They are occupied with their own affairs....

[HURRIYET] Has any Turkish aircraft flown in Nakhichevan airspace?

[Aliyev] No, but it would be very useful if they did.

Nakhichevan's Aliyev Opposes Iranian Observers

NC2805205592 Ankara TURKISH DAILY NEWS in English 25 May 92 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] Ankara—As the leader of the embattled Azerbaijani enclave of Nakhichevan declared a unilateral cease-fire on Saturday, 23 May, Armenians continued their attacks in Nakhichevan, the news agencies reported from the region.

"I've told my men not to open fire even if the Armenians do so because we want peace, not war," ANATOLIA news agency quoted Geydar Aliyev, chairman of Nakhichevan Supreme Majlis, as telling reporters in Nakhichevan. Aliyev also said he opposed proposals for Iranian observes to monitor Nakhichevan's border with Armenia, where clashes erupted near the Azerbaijani town of Sadarak on Monday, 25 May.

Iran has sent a first group of observers to Nakhichevan, the Islamic Republic News Agency IRNA said on Saturday. It quoted Iran's Ambassador to Azerbaijan 'Ali Akbar Nehavandian as saying the group arrived on Thursday, 21 May, and was probing "the situation in Nakhichevan and deployment of permanent observers there."

IRNA said Armenian presidential adviser Vahan Papazyan also called for the deployment of Iranian observers at the borders in a meeting on Friday, 22 May, with Iran's ambassador to Yerevan. Iran, wary of full-fledged war between the two former Soviet republics on its border, has repeatedly tried to mediate between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Aliyev criticized Iran for failing to show sufficient concern about what he called Armenian oppression.

"Why doesn't (President Akbar Hashemi) Rafsanjani say a word about the issue? Why is Iran just a bystander? They are giving comfort to the Armenians," ANATOLIA quoted Aliyev as saying. Aliyev said he was ready to make peace with Armenia as soon as Armenian forces withdrew from Nakhichevan's territory. "We are ready to agree with Armenia if they give us back the hills (near Sadarak)," he said. "We cannot feel secure as long as Armenians hold the hills."

"Why should Iran monitor our borders?" he asked. "We are not happy with this." [passage omitted]

Aliyev Asks Iran for Aid for Nakhichevan

PM0106091792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 May 92 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by "Voice of Islamic Republic of Iran": "G. Aliyev's Appeal to Tehran"]

[Text] Regional events and the clashes taking place between the Armenians and the Nakhichevan forces were discussed during a telephone conversation between Geydar Aliyev, chairman of the Autonomous Republic

of Nakhichevan Supreme Soviet, and Vaezi, deputy foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the talk Aliyev urged Iran to send its observers to this region to establish a cease-fire and also to render humanitarian aid to Nakhichevan. In turn the Iranian deputy foreign minister indicated that humanitarian aid will be rendered to Nakhichevan in the next few days.

Armenians Said To Cut Nakhichevan Power Lines

TA3105104792 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 1000 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Armenians are continuing their attack on Nakhichevan. An ANATOLIA report based on information from a representative of the Nakhichevan Popular Front notes that Armenians have opened fire with mortars and armored vehicles on various villages in Nakhichevan's (Ordubat) region. It is reported that some were injured and many houses were destroyed during the attack. Noting that the food and fuel shortages in Nakhichevan have worsened, the Popular Front official added that the power lines from Azerbaijan have been cut by the Armenians and that there is no electricity in the city.

Nakhichevan Reports Casualties, Mustard Gas Use

LD2905211792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 29 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] According to local observers, the temporary lull established on 28 May at the border between Armenia and Nakhichevan is wavering a great deal and may be broken. Approximately 35 soldiers from the Nakhichevan self-defense forces have perished, and over 100 have been wounded in fighting that has taken place in this region since 18 May. Some of them have been stricken by mustard gas. This was reported today by the Nakhichevan Majlis press service.

Georgia

Ossetia Protests Arms Transfer to Georgia

LD3005100492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0924 GMT 30 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 30 May—Torez Kulumbekov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of South Ossetia, has protested to the Russian leadership about the handing over of weapons and armored vehicles of the Transcaucasian military okrug to Georgia.

A telegram sent to Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy and Defense Minister Pavel Grachev says: "We lodge a protest against the handing of a considerable amount of weapons and armored vehicles over to Georgia, which the latter uses in its barbaric actions against South Ossetian civilians. One hundred and twelve Ossetian villages have been destroyed, over 500 people have been killed, and 130,000 have been evicted from their native land. People, especially women and children, are being killed every day.

"We demand that the leadership of the Russian Armed Forces provide appropriate explanations and insist that an adequate share of weapons should be handed over to the Ossetian side, for in this particular case the latter has every right to have it."

Despite the cease-fire agreement reached in Vladikavkaz on 27 May armed clashes between the confronting sides continue to take place on the territory of South Ossetia.

No Order Yet Received

LD3005135392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 30 May 92

[Interview with S.U. Beppayev, deputy commander of the Transcaucasus Military Okrug, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given; from the "Novosti" newscast—live]

[Text] [Correspondent] Does the report about arms being handed over to Georgia reflect the real situation?

[Beppayev] We did not receive an order of this nature regarding the handing over of military equipment or arms to the Georgian Government, and there can be no talk at present of such a handover. At present talks are in process between the governments of Georgia and the Russian Federation. Clearly some sort of treaty will be concluded, and whatever resolution is adopted, then the forces in the okrug will naturally carry out this resolution.

[Correspondent] Suffiyan (?Uzirovich), there has been a report that a combat engineers station in Tskhinvali has been blockaded. How do you view the actions of the Ossetian side?

[Beppayev] It is extremely unfortunate that such reports in general disturb the population, ordinary people and as a result of such a report there are illegal actions. We are now raising the issue so that what has been seized should be returned, and the Ossetian leadership has correspondingly given its word and is undertaking measures to return it. The issue needs to be resolved not by blockading military units and especially not by using force, but it needs to be settled in a civilized fashion, it needs to be settled by means of the relevant talks.

Sigua Confirms Transfer

LD3005230692 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Prime Minister of Georgia Tengiz Sigua has confirmed that the Georgian leadership received notification about the transfer to Georgia of some weapons

and military equipment from the Transcaucasian Military District. A joint commission has been set up for this. During one month it will oversee the transfer of bases and weapons from the district to the Georgian Ministry of Defense.

Meanwhile, said Sigua, a group of deputies from the Russian parliament demands that weapons be transferred to the South Ossetian side. In the eyes of the Georgian prime minister, this demand is totally unfounded.

Russia transfers bases and weapons to the state where its troops are being deployed. Tengiz Sigua said that there was a preliminary agreement to transfer to Georgia the naval bases of the Black Sea Fleet in Poti and Ochamchire together with all the vessels assigned to them. This was reported by INTERFAX.

S. Ossetian Forces Take Over Regiment Property

LD3105085592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0750 GMT 31 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 31 May—Only in the crisis zones of Ossetia—the outer reaches of Tskhinvali and on the border with Goriyskiy Rayon—were isolated shots from automatic weapons heard periodically during the night. According to information from the North Ossetian Ministry for Security, last night several localized scenes of armed confrontation were recorded in the far-flung settlements of Tskhinvalskiy and Znaurskiy Rayons. Civilians were injured. However, it has not yet been possible to move them to the rayon hospital: The Dzhava-Tskhinvali road is under constant fire from Georgian fighters.

We have learned from sources close to the South Ossetian Supreme Soviet that late Saturday [30 May] night the Ossetian self-defense units "nationalized" the property of a combat engineers' regiment, however it is not yet known exactly what has fallen into their hands. There is unconfirmed information that the sub-units of the Ossetian guards have proposed to the command of a helicopter regiment stationed on the outskirts of Tskhinvali that they also hand over to them their equipment and weapons. This has been done in retaliation for the Russian Government's resolution to hand over some of the weapons, ammunition and military vehicles of the Transcaucasus Military Okrug to Georgia.

As before, North Ossetia is blockading the Georgian military highway which links the Northern Caucasus with Transcaucasia, and the Transcaucasus gas pipeline has been shut off.

Electoral Process Begins; Curfew Extended

LD3005222692 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 30 May 92

[Video report by N. Gongadze; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The electoral process began in Georgia today. The government and public organizations are to express their attitude toward candidates only to the Central Electoral Commission.

Today the State Council discussed the question of the curfew. Taking account of the crime situation, it was decided to extend the curfew until 1 July, restricting it from 0100 to 0600. The city authorities in Tbilisi will not hamper the holding of rallies from now on, but special places have been designated for that.

Since none of the sides is observing the cease-fire agreement in the Tshkhinvali region and the population is acting willfully, it was decided to exclude the activities of political parties of the republic in this region and to place responsibility for the observation of the treaty in the conflict zone on Georgian Defense Minister Tengiz Kitovani. [video shows State Council meeting, Shevardnadze and other Georgian leaders]

Shevardnadze, Kulumbekov Assess Talks Breakdown

LD3105230792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2015 GMT 31 May 92

[Video report by G. Solomatin; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] In the very near future the helicopter regiment stationed in Tskhinvali and the Russian Army's engineering and sappers' battalion will be withdrawn from Tskhinvali in South Ossetia. According to Georgian Prime Minister Sigua, an accord was reached on this by the Georgian authorities and the command of the Transcaucasian Military District. Meanwhile, attempts are being made in South Ossetia to nationalize the weapons there. This, it seems, is creating serious problems for both Russian servicemen and the authorities in Tbilisi. [video shows street scenes]

[Solomatin] Masses of new problems are being seen every day. In the general opinion of both local and foreign observers, Eduard Shevardnadze and the Georgian State Council have been slow off the mark. A campaign of non-subordination by the Georgian population to the autonomous entity's parliament has begun in Abkhazia. This threatens not only economic losses and very great disruption to the republic's economy but also a disturbance of the fragile political balance beyond which chaos alone awaits the republic. The negotiating process has been broken off in Tskhinvali. Almost all chances for a peace settlement disappeared after the

shooting of refugees. [video shows Shevardnadze on bench with unidentified people]

[Begin Shevardnadze recording] This action followed the well-known tragic events when individuals of Ossetian nationality were killed. You know how we reacted and are reacting to this. We apraised this as barbaric, as a fascist outrage in the literal sense of this word. We expected that we would begin a more thorough dialogue after this on reconciliation and the establishment of peace. Unfortunately, this reaction followed from the north. I think that this is intolerable. [end recording] [video shows road traffic]

[Solomatin] The situation was also inflamed by the closure of the gas pipeline supplying Georgia with natural gas and the threat by the Ossetian side to block off the Georgian military highway. [video shows Kulumbekov, Solomatin conversing in yard of military depot]

[Begin T. Kulumbekov recording] The point is that the situation here is very tense. Blood is constantly being shed. Firing from Georgia does not cease. The people are in despair. We have never refused to sit down at the negotiating table but we have, in our meetings with Shevardnadze, repeatedly asked that there be a ceasefire. [end recording]

Shevardnadze Calls Blockade 'Irrational'

LD2905222692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] NEGA News Agency reports that Georgia's State Council has discussed the results of the talks with representatives of North Ossetia on ending the blockade of Georgia. State Council Chairman Shevardnadze described the blockade as an irrational measure, since the life of every family in Georgia and Armenia is linked to the gas pipeline. According to Shevardnadze, this ought to be clear to the Russian leadership, the more so since there are tens of thousands of Russian soldiers and officers and members of their families living in Georgia.

Kitovani Outlines Georgian Military Concept

LD2905175992 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1610 GMT 29 May 92

[From the "Military News" section]

[Text] Tbilisi—Georgian Defence Minister Tengiz Kitovani: The essence of Georgia's military concept is not to get involved in military campaigns, not to join military unions and not to defend other countries' interests. Kitovani also told PF [POSTFACTUM] on May 28: The draft concept was preliminarily discussed by the State Council. Georgia intends to pursue the state policy in the field of defence without causing damage to relationships with other countries. Proceeding from this premise, we hope for the limited contingent of the Army numbering some 20,000 people at the initial stage of its formation. The creation of the Army is not a matter of one day. I became convinced from my own experience that it is much easier to destroy than to build. The republic needs funds. Therefore, one has to handle the most varied problems. For instance, the maintenance of one brigade will require about 700 million rubles [R] a year. Certainly, the military budget will be a heavy burden for our economy, but the formation of the Georgian Army is an objective process which is prompted by the natural development of events and we will do everything for this Army to gain in strength and get on its feet as soon as possible. According to Kitovani, work to form the Georgian Defence Ministry's infrastructure has now been completed. The drafting of the military construction concept is nearing completion. The draft into the Georgian Army was started.

We are creating the Army in order to bolster our sovereignty and ensure the security of the state and the protection of the rights, freedoms and interests of all citizens of the republic, Kitovani said.

Asked by PF how the relationships between the Georgian Defence Ministry and the command of the Transcaucasian Military District are shaping, Kitovani said: I have good relations with the command of the Transcaucasian Military District. I frequently visit the district's headquarters and communicate a lot with the troops' commander and his deputies. These are utterly human contacts. As for the attitude to the military men in the republic, I would like to state the following: On The very first day of our advent to power we stripped the occupation status from troops and annulled all discriminating acts by Zviad Gamsakhurdia. It was officially stated that the new authorities take servicemen and their family members under their protection. This statement was shored up by deed. The wave of violence against the personnel of the Transcaucasian Military District in Georgia is diminishing. We head off decisively any attempts to stage outrages and make hooligans answerable for their actions in court. The servicemen of the Russian Army will not be infringed upon in anything in Georgia. Kitovani also said the issue of Russian troops staying in Georgia will be solved within the framework of the future inter-governmental agreement between Russia and Georgia. We are preparing our own considerations on the military issue. Sure, Russia, too, is carrying out some work here. The maintenance of the Russian group of troops in Georgia is a costly matter for Russia. Everything will be stipulated in the intergovernmental treaty: The terms for Russian troops' stay in Georgia, the procedure for the transfer of the military district's facilities from one balance sheet to another and also the use of Russian servicemen as advisers. We will assume mutual commitments and I hope we will implement them scrupulously, Kitovani added.

According to Kitovani, Georgian Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua said at the May 28 meeting of the State Council that Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev signed an instruction on May 28 to hand over to Georgia 100

artillery guns, 100 combat infantry vehicles, 30 tanks and 10,000 Kalashnikov machine-guns and Makarov pistols.

Gamsakhurdia 'Intends' To Address CSCE 2 Jun

LD3105210792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] As has been learned from sources close to the Georgian opposition, former Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia has left for Helsinki where he intends to try on 2 June to take the floor at the CSCE working session due to open there, ANI reports.

Sporadic Firing Occurs on Tamarasheni

LD0106085292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0711 GMT 1 Jun 92

[By SAKINFORM news agency correspondent Guram Chanishvili]

[Text] Tbilisi, 1 Jun—The press center of the Georgian Interior Ministry reports that on 31 May the village of Tamarasheni in the Tskhinvali area was fired on sporadically from 0200 until 0300 on 1 June from the direction of Tskhinvali. At 1600 on 31 May, a military helicopter circled the villages of Iri and Lesora of Onskiy Rayon, fired several shots from automatic weapons, and flew off in the direction of the settlement of Kvaisi.

South Ossetia Experiences 'Troubled Night'

LD0106104192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0830 GMT 1 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz (North Ossetia), 1 Jun—It has been a troubled night in South Ossetia. According to reports coming in today from the Supreme Soviet of this north Caucasus Republic, Georgian irregulars subjected Tskhinvali, the administrative center, to shelling throughout the night, with only brief breaks. They were using heavy machine guns, mortars, and rocket launchers. Residential and public buildings have been destroyed and vital services and facilities damaged. Casualty figures are being clarified.

The Security Ministry of the North Ossetian SSR [as received] has reported that Georgian helicopters fired on Ossetian villages in Dzhava Rayon on 31 May. Roads and bridges which refugees are using to get to Vladikavkaz have also been subjected to air attacks, causing casualties. The Ossetian Guard and self-defense units returned fire to suppress Georgian positions around the villages of Nikozi, Tamarasheni, and Kekhvi.

It was reported today from Tskhinvali that Ossetian self-defense units have "partially nationalized" military assets there; these assets are under the jurisdiction of a Russian combat engineer regiment. Reliable sources have learned that 25 automatic weapons and several pieces of construction equipment have been taken over. The Ossetians are also putting pressure on the command of the helicopter regiment stationed there, demanding its equipment and weaponry. The Transcaucasus Military District has redeployed a battalion of paratroopers to Tskhinvali to prevent any seizure of military materiel.

A group of American lawyers arrived today in Vladikavkaz (the administrative center of North Ossetia), which currently hosts over 100,000 refugees. The Americans plan to see for themselves the work of a special commission set up to house refugees and to examine the situation in the region.

Latvia

Conflicts With Russian Troops Arise in Dobele

LD2905180492 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0900 GMT 29 May 92

[Interview with Security Service official Juris Vectirans by unidentified reporter at the Supreme Council offices in Riga on 29 May—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Would you tell briefly what happened yesterday and the day before yesterday, as well as perhaps today, in Dobele?

[Vectirans] The Dobele governments, the town and rayon governments, adopted a resolution in connection with the exacerbation of the crime situation in the rayon and town and with the increased movement of Russian Army formations and vehicles in the rayon and the town, and also in order to ensure public order, to carry out the necessary registration, and to collect information to evaluate the situation. The Council of Deputies adopted a resolution to use the traffic police and the Battalion 51 of the ground defense guard to inspect and jointly control vehicle transportation, including army transport.

There the first conflicts arose. Some vehicles did not stop, did not submit to the motor vehicle inspectorate's lawful demands. Also, General Kurmatov, the commander of the Dobele division, himself did not stop.

In the morning, at approximately 1100 on 28 May, army patrols, consisting mainly of officers, were stationed armed with automatic weapons. The situation became rather tense, because some of the police discontinued fulfilling their functions. The Russian patrols were placed even where there were no posts of ours, at the offices of the rayon and town, which caused a well-founded alarm in the town among residents, the government, and the leadership. Well, without delay we informed the leadership of the Supreme Council, specifically Mr. Gorbunovs. Mr. Krastins received instructions to travel there. After a while Internal Affairs Minister Cevers went to Dobele. He had also been in contact with the officers of the Baltic Military District, and, as I understood, had been making contact with Mironov.

[Reporter] At present we are talking here at the Supreme Council, in your office. Does this mean that the situation in Dobele has returned to normal?

[Vectirans] The deputies, the town and rayon leaders, summoned the leadership of this division. Gen. Kurmatov himself did not come, saying that he had to go to Riga to Mironov, but he sent his Chief of Staff Prokhorov. He partially, indirectly, admitted that perhaps this action had not been quite correct, [words indistinct] he endeavored to put the blame on our police, our ground defense guard. In response he was clearly and plainly told that they were in Latvia, that Latvia was an independent state, that they must obey the laws of Latvia, and that no kind of Russian laws or laws invented by them themselves (?will do).

I think this shows only one thing: We must be still more demanding, still more strict, and local governments must act still more energetically in this area—controlling the Army, vehicle transport, and Army activity, any activity.

[Reporter] What is the situation this morning?

[Vectirans] According to our information, the situation is controllable. The traffic police along with the ground defense guard are continuing to fulfill the resolution. So they are at their posts, fulfilling their duties, stopping vehicles, inspecting them, as it should be done.

[Reporter] What was the role of the Security Service of the Republic of Latvia in the Dobele operation?

[Vectirans] As an institution of the Supreme Council, as the head of the Security Service of the Supreme Council, who is directly subordinate to Mr. Gorbunovs, then I was simply sent there in order to conduct talks and to express my standpoint as a specialist on Army matters. And in case of necessity, all the personnel of the Security Service were in combat readiness, stationed, and—let us say—thus in the vicinity of Dobele and waiting for a signal to act if required.

Buildings, Roads Blockaded

OW2905211292 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1956 GMT 30 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] This Thursday [28 May], groups of officers from the local military unit commanded by Col. Yuriy Ponomaryov, came in the buildings of the Dobele Town Hall, the Dobele Police station, the Home Guard headquarters, and the State Service Department. In their statements, construed as an ultimatum, they demanded that all the general traffic police and Home Guard posts, which were earlier replaced on several roads around Dobele by the decision of the local authorities, be removed without delay.

Following the ultimatum, the Russian Army servicemen blockaded all of the above buildings. Simultaneously, groups of armed officers assumed positions in the vicinity of the traffic control posts on the roads around Dobele. Four army communications trucks appeared on the streets of the town jamming the frequencies of the communications facilities employed by the Latvian ambulance service and the police.

This measures were lifted only at about 6 p.m. after several high-standing Latvian officials, including Chairman of the Supreme Council Andrejs Krastins, the Home Guard Chief of Staff Girts Kristovskis, Chief of Security Service Juris Vectirans, and Minister of Internal Affairs Ziedonis Cevers, arrived in Dobele in order to address the situation.

Internal Affairs Minister Comments

LD3005141992 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 2000 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] On Friday [29 May] official functionaries of Latvia, the minister of internal affairs and the head of the security service, assessed the incidents at Dobele and in Dobele Rayon in connection with the Russian Army not submitting to Latvian law. Internal Affairs Minister Ziedonis Cevers thinks that the commanding personnel of the Russian Army division stationed in the neighborhood of Dobele should be expelled from Latvia without the right to return to it.

In connection with the incidents at Dobele, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Latvia has announced that it is ready to consistently adhere to the legal norms existing in the territory of Latvia and to demand their fulfillment also from the Russian Army units.

Draft Border Agreement With Estonia Reached

LD2905180392 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1610 GMT 29 May 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Riga—On May 28, a draft agreement on borders between Latvia and Estonia was submitted to Latvian Supreme Soviet's commissions. Under the draft, citizens of the both states will be allowed to cross the border line without visas and to bring an unlimited quantity of commodities. Such an agreement was reached during Latvian-Estonian talks started on March 20. As of now, individuals are allowed to import from Estonia goods worth R [ruble] 5,000 (R3,000 - from Latvia), PF [POSTFACTUM] was informed at the press service of the Latvian Supreme Soviet. The issues of equipping Latvian-Estonian border facilities was discussed by republican delegations at a meeting on May 20 in Estonia, Mikhail Popkov, information department head of the Estonian Foreign Ministry reported on May 29. It was decided that a 12-meter border line with a 1-meter deep and border posts will be created within a 1.5-year period.

Property Questions Unresolved in Russia Talks

LD2905220192 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1730 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] We received an official statement on the results of the interstate talks between the Republic of Latvia and the Russian Federation in Moscow on 26-28 May 1992. It states:

In the talks of the delegations of the Republic of Latvia and the Russian Federation, the more important questions of bilateral relations were discussed: the withdrawal of troops under the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation from the territory of Latvia and mutual political, economic, and humanitarian cooperation.

On the question of the withdrawal of the troops, the sides did not reach an agreement on the high-principled questions. The date of withdrawal of the troops proposed by Russia—1999—is not acceptable to the Latvian side. The troops being situated in the territory of Latvia destabilize the political situation and do not further the security in the Baltic region. The date of withdrawal of all the troops, proposed by us, is the year 1993.

The points of view of the sides essentially differ on the question on the property situated in the territory of Latvia under the authority of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation. Latvia regards all immovable property as belonging to it. At the same time, the Russian side lays claim to all military facilities except those built prior to 1940. In such a way, the investment of resources of Latvia in the construction of these facilities and in the creation of that military property that belonged to the Armed Forces of the former USSR are being excluded. The total losses that have been caused to Latvia, with the troops being in it and utilizing its national resources, are to be estimated at approximately 40 billion rubles at the prices of the relevant years and exceed the value of the constructed military facilities.

The proposition of the Russian side on the immunity of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation in the territory of Latvia, which has been made equal to the immunity of the diplomatic corps, is unacceptable to the Latvian side. The Armed Forces of Russia are the armed forces of a foreign state in the territory of Latvia without either an agreement or any other legal grounds existing. Therefore, the Latvian side regards that there are legal grounds for applying the customs code and other legislative acts with regard to the soldiers of the Armed Forces of Russia.

The contestable questions would be avoidable to a great extent if the level of mutual trust were raised and independent experts and observers were made use of. The Russian side, however, rejected the proposal of the Latvian side to allow foreign observers to participate in the talks.

The stand of the Russian side in tackling the most essential question of the talks causes serious concern and special attention of the world community should be drawn to it.

Lithuania

Opposing Political Parties 'Stirring Up Tension'

LD2905173192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1642 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Kazis Uscila]

[Text] Vilnius May 29 TASS—"The situation in the republic and the parliament is changing and growing

tense," Deputy Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Chairman Ceslovas Stankiavicius told today's news conference at the republican parliament.

Stankiavicius represents the interests and views of parliamentary extreme right-wing deputies, who have joined in Sajudis coalition "For Democratic Lithuania" and have been boycotting the parliament for two weeks.

He said the "character of parliament work" must change under current conditions, that is, in his words, it is expedient to hold plenary meetings only after an agreement on the date of parliamentary elections is achieved. The coalition demands the Sejm be elected no later than September 20, 1992.

A Sajudis coalition statement, published today in the LETUVOS AIDAS state newspaper, a mouthpiece of the extreme right-wing political grouping, shows the coalition will not limit its actions to mere ultimatums to the parliamentary majority, but will also pass from words to deeds.

Traditionally referring to the "danger to Lithuanian independence", "a communist coup" and possible "disorders and provocations", the coalition has called on its supporters to "be on duty near the Supreme Soviet for the next few days".

The same statement carries a "warning" to the "pro-communist bloc", which sounds as an open threat to the parliament: "If our demands to immediately announce the Sejm elections and preserve the stability of the current state structures are not taken into account, we will call on Lithuanian citizens to support us by other non-violent measures".

This estimation of the Lithuanian situation is not shared by some republican politicians and organizations. For instance, Deputy Lithuanian Parliament Chairman Kazimeras Motieka in today's interview with the KURIER VILENSKY newspaper rejected attempts of the right-wing political group to convince the public of alleged "threat to Lithuania" and somebody's "attempts to join Lithuania to Russia".

He also agreed with the need for elections of a new parliament, but stressed "first of all, the Constitution and the law on elections must be adopted, and after that they must be put into life".

It is hardly possible not to agree with the conclusion made today by the Lithuanian most popular LETUVOS RITAS newspaper: "The referendum has not cleared the tense air in Lithuania. On the contrary—the opposing political forces are stirring up tension even more".

Delegation Head on Russian Talks Progress

LD2905181492 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1200 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] The Baltic News Service Agency reports: The Russian delegation expressed goodwill in the Moscow talks with Lithuania, according to delegation head Viktor Isakov in an interview with the Agency correspondent.

He noted that the Lithuanians came to Moscow with the aim of discussing only one issue—the withdrawal of troops of the former USSR from the territory of the Republic. Meanwhile, there existed an understanding to examine a complex of issues between Russia and Lithuania, including the issues of property, fishing, and cooperation between law enforcement bodies. According to Isakov, under the conditions of the Lithuanian delegation consisting only of military experts, the Russian side had a choice—either discontinue the talks, or discuss procedural issues only and hold a meeting of the working group of experts on the withdrawal of troops. Ultimately, this was done.

The head of the Russian delegation had the impression that the Lithuanians were not in a hurry to solve the issue of the withdrawal of troops. They were obviously awaiting the completion of the referendum in Lithuania demanding the withdrawal of Russian troops this year and the payment of compensation for damages inflicted by the Army of the former Union, he noted.

As far as the Lithuanian demand on compensation for the presence of the Army is concerned, according to the figures of the head of the Lithuanian delegation, Aleksandras Abisala, this amounts to $150 billion. Isakov pointed out that Lithuania has taken over all former Union property, ports, railways, and factories. According to Isakov, the demand for compensation for damage caused by the presence of troops on the territory of Lithuania can be just only if Lithuania pays a certain compensation to Russia concerning property of the former USSR.